SUNDAY
November 5, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
32 Pages ₹ 8.00

THE HINDU ON SUNDAY

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

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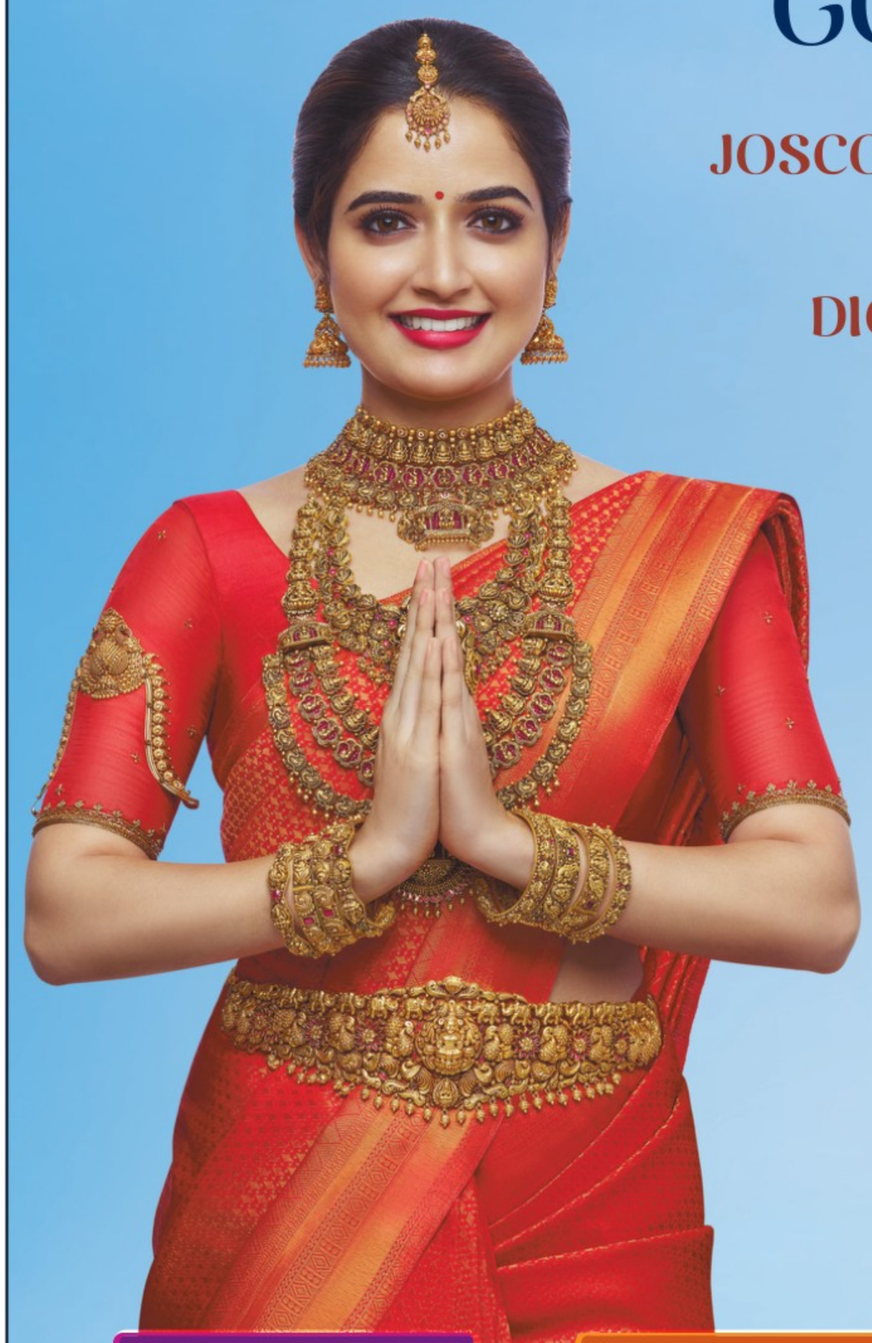

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'ENEMY PROPERTY'

Lucknow's Butler Palace up for facelift

The century-old building, built on the banks of the Gomti river, has been left deserted for decades

NEWS» PAGE 11

Electoral bond sales to open again tomorrow

NEWS » PAGE 9

Indian metal bands seek success abroad

MAGAZINE » PAGE 1

India faces the South Africa test

SPORT » PAGE 17

NEARBY

CM holds damage-control meeting

BENGALURU
In a damage-control exercise, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Saturday held a breakfast meeting with his deputy D.K. Shivakumar and other Cabinet colleagues at his official residence 'Cauvery'. » Page 6

Thimmakka plans another plantation drive

BENGALURU
Centenarian Saalumarada Thimmakka is planning to plant 100 banyan saplings along the 5-kilometre stretch between Hulikal and Kudur in Magadi taluk. » Page 4

MAGAZINE » 8 PAGES

Nepal earthquake claims 157 lives in remote regions

The 6.4 magnitude temblor, worst to hit the country since 2015, destroys many houses in the mountainous region; at least 160 injured; tremors felt in Kathmandu and New Delhi

Press Trust of India
KATHMANDU

Badly hit: Houses damaged in the aftermath of an earthquake at Jajarkot of Nepal, on Saturday. AFP

At least 157 people were killed and over 160 injured when a powerful 6.4 magnitude earthquake, the worst since 2015, struck Nepal and destroyed hundreds of houses in the Himalayan nation's remote mountainous region, officials said on Saturday.

The National Earthquake Monitoring and Research Centre said the earthquake with an epicentre in Jajarkot district, about 500 km west of Kathmandu, was recorded at 11.47 p.m. on Friday.

Friday's earthquake is the most devastating one in Nepal since the 2015 earthquake that killed nearly 9,000 people and injured more than 22,000.

The impact of the earthquake was felt in Kathmandu and surrounding districts, and even in New Delhi.

The Nepal Army has mobilised its personnel to carry out rescue work in the quake-hit areas, according to Nepal Army spokesperson Krishna Prasad Bhandari.

Rescue workers on Saturday dug through the rubble of collapsed houses to find survivors. The Jajarkot and Rukum districts of western Nepal were worst hit by the quake.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 9

Free ration scheme to be extended for five more years: PM

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

Narendra Modi

The Union government's scheme to provide 5 kg of free foodgrains every month to 80 crore Indians, which is slated to end this December, will be extended for another five years, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday. Mr. Modi made the announcement while addressing a poll rally in Durg district of Chhattisgarh.

The Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) was introduced in 2020 as a pandemic relief measure, providing 5 kg of free foodgrains per beneficiary a month in addition to the 5 kg of subsidised foodgrains they were entitled to under the National Food Security Act. In December 2022, as PMGKAY came to an end after multiple extensions, the Union Cabinet decided to make NFSA rations free for one year. That will now be extended further, the PM announced.

"Today, I want to tell the poor brothers and sisters of the country from the land of Durg that I have decided that the BJP government will now extend the scheme of providing free ration to 80 crore poor people of the country for the next five years," he said.

The PM said that his government had taken 13.5 crore people out of poverty across the country and was empowering them.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 9

State lost about ₹1 cr. a day to cybercrimes in 2022: Priyank

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Karnataka, the tech flag bearer of India, lost about ₹1 crore each day to cybercrimes in 2022, cumulatively incurring a loss of ₹363 crore in the whole year, said Priyank Kharge, Minister for Electronics, Information Technology, Biotechnology; Rural Development and Panchayat Raj here on Saturday.

Such losses, he said, were likely to see about 150% rise this year as incidents of economic offences, cyber cheating, online scams, frauds, identity theft, and cyber terrorism etc., were significantly on the increase. "Economic cyber violations are certainly on the rise year after year," he told *The Hindu* on the sidelines of a Meta event on cybersecurity for children and young.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 4

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Weaves of grass

Mats crafted from the dry grass cultivated along the banks of the Cauvery river in Karur district of Tamil Nadu is found in many homes in the interiors of South India

M. Periasamy
periasamy.m@thehindu.co.in

Lush vegetation: A worker harvesting *korai* grass at Vangal in Karur district.

The transformation of simple straw (dried grass) into a mat comfortable enough to lie down on is unparalleled. Known as *korai paai* in Tamil, such mats are a household object in the interiors of southern India. These mats are crafted from the dry grass cultivated along the banks of the Cauvery in Karur district of Tamil Nadu. *Korai* grass (*Cyperus pangorei*) is cultivated on more than 2,500 acres of land at Nerur, Paramathi, Vangal, Senappaadi and Unniyur in the district. Once the grass reaches its full height, it is cut down for making the mats.

At the time of harvest, farmers begin their day as early as 6 a.m. The grass is dried in the sun before dispatch to the market.

The harvested grass is purchased by weavers from the market. They weave the grass into mats after dyeing them in various colours and use fibre from aloe vera plants to hold it together. These are known as *naar paai* and in a day, only one mat can be woven by hand by a person. The entire process from cultivating, harvesting, splitting, drying and then dyeing is labour-intensive, and, hence, only a handful of weavers in Viralipatti use the traditional method.

With the coming of technology, aloe vera fibres became replaced by cotton twine and the mats started to be woven in power looms. Nevertheless, this century-old traditional craft has been fading largely owing to a lack interest among the younger generation, and not enough incentive among the makers to sustainably make the business viable.

During summer, straw mats are cool to sleep on, and like many other natural objects, they turn comfortably warm to sleep on in cold weather.

The level of popularity of the mats is such that they are given as wedding gifts in the region. It is a common practice to gift the bride and groom a mat with their names as well with the wedding date woven into the design.

Tall stalks: Harvesting in progress at Senappaadi.

Long way ahead: Workers carry the harvested grass for processing.

Sun drenched: Harvested korai grass being dried.

Classifieds

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BRIDEGROOMS WANTED

INDEX OF MATRIMONIAL

BRIDEGROOMS WANTED
BRIDES WANTED
BRIDES & GROOMS WANTED
Classification Common for Brides, Bridegrooms, Brides & Grooms
ASSAMESE
AWADHI
BENGALI
BHOJPURI
BIHARI
CHHATTISGARHI
ENGLISH
GUJARATI
HARYANI
HINDI
KANNADA
KASHMIRI
KONKANI
MALAYALAM
MANIPURI
MARATHI
MARWARI
NEPALI
ORIYA
PARSI
PUNJABI
SAURASHTRA
SINDHI
TAMIL
TELUGU
TULU
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KAMMA NAIDU, 27/168, MDS., BPS., (Prosthodontics and Implantology) certified BPS Specialist, Uthiratathi, Meenam, Mesham seeks Doctor Groom. Ph: 9842131535

ENGINEER

HINDU CHETTIAR Girl, 29/163, Engineer MS, MBA, Comfortably Placed In MNC, Newyork State, USA. Looking For Well Qualified Engineers/ Doctors Working In USA Or Willing To Migrate To USA. Can Sponsor Spouse. Caste No Bar. Mob: 9567095896

KANNADA

HINDU VOKKALIGA Gowda 29, BE from Coimbatore seeks Suitable Groom. Contact: 97917 68175.

MALAYALAM

VISHWAKARMA(C) GIRL, MTech/30/165/ Makam, single daughter of Rtd. Class1officer,seeks suitable alliance from well educated and well placed matches. Cont:9535031849

SEEKING ALLIANCE for Nair girl, 39, Uthram, Ph.D, Associate Professor at a UK University, never married Contact email id: krishnakumarak@yahoo.com or rajeswarikrishnan2002@gmail.com

NRI

Hindu Mudaliyar Girl 32/167cm, BS, US Citizen Working in IT MNC Seeks Dr./S.Engr. Boys settled in US. Wapp: +1(469) 305-6277 / Ph: 63824 71829.

TAMIL

NATHAMAR UDAYAR, catholic 30 yrs, HR–MNC in Chennai, girl separated shortly with null and void order looking for catholic boy below 33 yrs, premier institute or professional with null and void or unmarried with clean habits, WhatsApp: 6380390185

RC GIRL 26/170cm Working In Microsoft. Parents Keralite Settled In Chennai. Own Business Seeks Chennai Based Groom From a Good Family Background. 98841 85583

NADAR CHRISTIAN girl from well educated, very rich family, fair, God–fearing, very beautiful; employed in a reputed Company drawing good Salary. The boy should be well educated from a Christian rich family. Parents Contact. 98401 29090.

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SMART RC Tamil (35) Senior Engineer, USA desires suitable RC Tamil in USA. Parents: 9345421430

CHRISTIAN DKV 33/157 B.Tech, MSc, Ph.D, University employed, USA seeks professional working 33–35yr groom in USA, well educated, God–fearing family. Mail: greysel1990@gmail.com/ WhatsApp: 9444386465/ 9566203917

MBBS DR. TN Govt Chennai 23–02–90 fair slim 165 cm magaram uthiradam 4 Hindu Naidu Elite Family seeks Dr, Class A officer, Business Groom. Any Hindu FC/BC. 9841743266.

SOUTH–BASED AFFLUENT Christian family invites alliances for their daughter age 27 Post–Graduate Doctor. Suitable alliances from Christian Groom–PG Doctor contact: drajan3809@gmail.com/8920762703

Tamil Hindu Agamudayar, MBBS, MD, 29 years fair seeks BC doctor groom Ct: 9443010858.

COSMOPOLITAN

32 YEAR Catholic girl Masters in psychology and Bed. Teaching in Chandigarh. 8146739501

DOCTOR

GROOM WANTED
ELITE REPUTED AGAMUDAIYAR FAMILY Running Educational Institutions in Chennai. Invites Alliance for Daughter 26/168 Cms, Fair Good Looking Doctor, MS ENT. Looking for Doctor, MD/MS Groom from affluent Mukkulathor / Mudaliar family
PH: 9500063847

TAMIL

TAMIL MUSLIM Girl, 28/165cm Electrical Engineer, Singapore Citizen, Good looking Seeks suitable alliance– NRI, Overseas Educated, Good Family, Willing to relocate Ct: 8056007500/email: habeebmillennia@gmail.com

BC (KALLAR) Remarriage 39 Yrs M.Sc M.Phil Working in Pvt School (Admin Dept.) seeks good looking & good professional groom from same / equal caste. 9677970128,9486457204

DOCTOR REDDY Elite Family Fair29/ 160 Pooram Simmam MD AIIMS Delhi Seeks Professional Groom CNB 9841047406

Hindu Nadar, 26yrs, PhD. (NanoTech) Gd looking, seeks highly qualified from same caste 9585452877/ 7639366767 e-mail: arjunapandian@hotmail.com

PILLAI / MUDALIAR, 34, MD, Well Settled family seeks Groom aged 34-36 yrs, Engineer/ Business/ Doctor. Contact: 93458 55735

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HINDU/CHRI, 1992 working Asis Prof (Dr, HOD) Univer Chennai, seeking working groom 9443118355

PILLAI/ MUDALIAR B.E/Kettai / MNC, 1996 Born, Reputed Business family seeks alliance. Ph: 98400 93322

SWE BE MNC Chennai 40/167cm 20Lac p.a BC from Coimbatore, 1st Marriage Mirugaseerisham Rishaba Rasi, seeks Groom BC/FC only. Ct: 89394-68628.

TAMIL YADAVA Girl (Divorcee) BE, MBA Software Engineer 38 Years seeks alliance from Engineers / Professionals.Caste no bar. Call. 9444915440

SC AD Hindu, BE MBA, SBI Manager, 35yrs, Mesham–Bharani, seeking suitable & qualified Groom. Ph–8056104103

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HINDU NADAR girl, 29 yrs, 168 cms, 65kg, ME, Thiruvathirai, Mithunam Seeks well settled, qualified groom. Ct : 96265 15511

DOCTOR DCH,MD(PATHOLOGY) 38yrs, Hindu, BC, Divorcee without Child, temporarily working in Government, seeks well settled, compatible & affectionate Groom. CNB. Ph: 9176289180

HINDU NADAR 25/165, MBBS, MS, USA Settled. Seeks Suitable Groom Ct: KA RAMAN NADAR 9380791999/ 9047192999

RICH NAIDU, 27yrs, BE, MBA in UK, Ellie Business Family. Seeks Suitable Groom Ct: 9710093999/ 8939691888

SC 29/167 M.Tech SRM Engineer girl now @ Bangalore TCS Seeks Govt or private job Native North T.N. 9442477699, Email: jsdco2012@gmail.com

HINDU, MUDALIYAR 25y / 158cm /kannada / Tamil/Mca lecturer/divorcee seeks well settled, clean habits boy with very good family background (CNB) CT.9036778054

MUDALIAR ELITE 25/168, Fair, V.Beautiful, MBBS,Fathers Own Hospital,100.Cr, CNB. 9342409272, 9043991629

MUDALIAR 24/V.FAIR, BE, MBA, Father Business, Chennai, Rich Family, Seeks Groom– Business/Eng. 8939012419

CHETTIAR 25/V.FAIR MBA, Father Industrialist, very Rich, Seeks Groom– Business/ Abroad/ India–8925019776

CNB /HINDU/ Chennai/35/ Post Graduate/ runs a facilitation concern for MNC Past 5yrs well settled seeks Groom age 36 –38 WhatsApp 9380938228

GROOM WANTED Rich Gounder, 31yrs, M.Arch, Elite Business Family in Chennai, CNB Ct: 9710093999/ 8939691888

SC (AD), 24yrs, BE, Well Educated Family Background. Seeks Suitable Groom Contact: 9710093999/ 8939691888

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DOCTOR MBBS MD
Working in NHS London 39/167 Fair Tamil Protestant CSI Christian Nadar BC Innocent Divorcee no issues seeks Christian Doctor Groom / well settled Professionals in UK/ India. Caste no bar
Ph: 98435 26370

GROOM WANTED Hindu Nadar BE, 30/ 165, 50000, Divorcee, Caste No Bar, KA Raman Nadar 9380791999/ 9047192999

SC ADIDRAVIDA Divorced No Child, Age 38 BE EEE Wkg in MNC .Well settled. Seeks Suitable Groom. 9940347310

SC AD 25/B.E.,Software Sr.Test Analyst [Cognizant Technology] 60,000p.m. Seeking Bridegroom. Ph:9444993417

MOOLAM,VADAKALAI NAITHRABHA Kashyapa 27/173 Fair,PG Emp Abroad Seeks Same Sect Ct:04424613309/9444698964

AD (PR) 30/162cm B.E.,CSE,MS Ph.d working in USA seeks USA working groom, Age 30 - 33yrs, well Educated, Loving, Non- Vegetarian, same caste prefd email: shreebalan26@gmail.com Whats App: 97506 47711

HINDU Nadar, 29yrs/ 160cm Moolam Dhanush, B.Tech(CS) Working-CISCO Bangalore seeks Groom with similar Background. Ct: 91768 00819

Kongu Vellala Gounder, 29/165cms, MBBS, MD-Pharmacology, Senior Resident Medical college, Chennai. Rs.90,000/-pm. Seeks Suitable Qualified Groom,29-34yrs. Ct: 95511 44484

Pillai/ Mudaliar 35yrs, Hastham, MCA Fair, well settled Chennai seeks 37-40 Prof.Quaf working Groom.8220757159

Tamil Muslim, Elite fmy MA(HR) MNC Chennai Seeks Professional or Business groom. Ph: 9841659786

Adi Dravida/SC Girl 29/175cm, MBA, Good Looking, Well Settled Family seeks sutiable Groom Ct: 7904233514

CHRISTIAN SC/AD 35/160 M.Tech, Govt. Bank officer, Seeks Groom Dr. Er. any Govt officer.Ct 9940130074

Hindu Adidravida Hastham 28/156cm BE MNC16L Pa seeks suitable alliance from Govt, PSU, IT. Ct: 94441 55781

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ELITE GROOMS WANTED

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VANNIYAR, 23, 160 cms, Student, MBA. Lives in Chennai. Parents are Entrepreneurs. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448343

CHETTIAR, 27, 152 cms, Doctor, MS (ENT). Lives in Chennai. Parents are Entrepreneurs. Family is financially well off. Looking for a suitable match. Contact: 6366448343

PADMASHALI, 27, 160 cms, Student, MSc. Lives in Chennai. Parents are Entrepreneurs. Family is financially well off. Looking for an affable match. Contact: 6366448343

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TAMIL

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HINDU MUDALIAR Super Speciality Doctor 34 seek Doctor/ Industrialist groom between 34 & 37 CNB 9884202884

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MS(USA) Chemical Engineer, Saliya 34/165 seeks USA based brides, caste no bar. 9989305086

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HINDU EZHAVA Man, Govt. Plus Two Teacher, Gazetted Officer, 51, Chathayam, Trivandrum 9447005305

NRI

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Tamil Saiva Pillai 32 Years, Working in USA seeks Girl. Contact Mobile : 9740853655

ENGLISH

✔ **MANGLORIAN 47YRS** Divorcee warm hearted settled in Chennai looking for a like minded women. Ct: 9884027500

GUJARATI

CHENNAI BASED CA Brahmin Boy 32 invites alliance from working girl. Mob – 8758782911

TAMIL

CSI/ Christian 27yrs / 165cms, MBA, Working, 3.7LPA, Chennai seeks suitable Bride.Ct: 9677281464/9840139960

MUSLIM,40 Ph.D.,M.Sc (yoga) Seeks Bride, Immediate Marriage. No Demand. Ct: 9342585072

RC CHRISTIAN, 41yrs/170, B.E Software Engineer, Chennai, Unmarried, seeks educated bride,CT – 9500188067,

RC Christian, 40yrs, Sr. Manager in Reputed Bank, Chennai seeks suitable Bride. Caste No Bar. Ct: 75501 05368.

ALLIANCE INVITED from Muslim Widow or Divorcy without Child around Age 40–-45 for Muslim Widower by Businessman Age 57 Income 50,000 permonth having Son Age 16 Ct: 9443011354

TAMIL MUSLIM 29yrs/176cm handsome SW Engr.in USA– MS– CS (Houston–USA) well settled, Educated Family in Chennai, seeks suitable bride–Fair, Tall (5'4"–5'9"), age(24–27yrs), working / Studying in USA or willing move to USA from a decent, Educated, Tamil Muslim Family. Ct: Whatsapp 9444149649 with biodata & Photo.

BE, MBA,42, Cyber security, IT, Chennai Tamil boy seeks Good character Girl for his 1st Mrg: 9742033888

HINDU DKV 38/160 BE SWE Germany 60/ L PA Pooradam Dhanus Seeks Brides DRs SWE IT Field move to Germany CNB. Ct: 94433 66333/ 9487 571853

HINDU KONGU Vellala Gounder 36/183 Sadayam, B.Sc.,MBA Job&Business 30L P.A. Working Chennai Upper Middle Class Suitable Girl Any Degree& Any Caste in B.C.,Whatsapp: 9360323979

BRIDE WANTED SC (AD) 30yrs, BE, MS working in MNC, 2Lakhs pm, Well Educated Family 9710093999/ 8939691888

BRIDE WANTED Hindu Nadar 34/170, BE, 300000, Working in Bangalore. KA Raman Nadar: 9380791999/ 9047192999

MUDALIYAR AGE 46 Well Settled Groom, Seeks 45 To 55 Well Settled Helping Minded, Widower, Divorcy Individual Person Good companion, Age, Caste No Bar. Ct: 8838225041

MUDALIYAR, KETTAI,37/165, M. Tech.,(Ph.D), HOD, Pvt.Engg. College, Pondy Seeks Bride 29 to 36yrs 9942257578

5FT 7INCH 36, BE. Bits, Ex Sr. Associate IT, now Business, Chennai, affluent family, F Pillai M Iyer, doctors, Veg. Contact 9442026869

SOZHIYA Vellalar 35 MCA working in IDFC First Bank Branch Manager seeks suitable Bride. Mudaliar also preferd. Ct:9790596388, 9994159877.

PILLAI/ MUDALIAR, 28, ML, practising Lawyer in Chennai High Court, seeks suitable working bride from well settled decent family. 9840449914

TAMIL MUSLIM, BE, MBA, SWE, 30/180 Working in MNC, Chennai seeks suitable Bride. Ct: 9444008160

BRIDE WANTED Rich Mudaliyar, 31yrs, M. Arch, Elite Business Family. Contact: 9710093999/ 8939691888

ELITE MUDALIYAR 30yrs B.Tech, MS (US) Working in US, Seeks Elite Family Background 9176718886/ 8939691888

BRIDE WANTED Rich Naidu, 32yrs, BE, MS(US), Working in US, Elite Family Background 9962791888/ 8939691888

HINDU NADAR 30/172, BE, IRS, 600000, USA, Seeks Suitable Bride Ct:K.A Raman Nadar 9380791999/ 9047192999

HINDU SC AD, 37/ BE/ PGD HRM/ Director– L&D, Sftwr Co., Chennai, Unmarried Mob: 7824035052

TAMILNADU –BASED NRI return Graduate Engineer second divorcee, 1964 born. Curious for an issueless soulmate, who should be focused and escalate and persist. Ct: 63857 54610.

NAIDU CASTE no bar – 29Y. B.E , M.B.A 15L P.Y Suitable Fair Bride Normal Family.Any district : 7358638363

MUDALIYAR, 26YRS, 178cm, V.Fair, Handsome, Thiruvonam, No Dosham, B.E. (Civil), Sr.Design Engr., L& T– Chennai, seeks suitable Bride, Subsect no bar. Ct: 9444398256/ 8754468741

TAMIL

SENGUNTHAR, 38/165, Widower, NRI. 65 Lacs, B.E. 2 Kids live together. Caste, Education, Wealth No expectations. Looking for unmarried family oriented girl. 7904495268

HINDU MUDALIAR Groom, 1st Marriage, 45, 5ft 7inch, BE – ECE, Bangalore. 9886493369, rajdmohan@outlook.com

VELLALAR /SUBSECTS 27 years B.com BL.14Lacs MNC Chennai Minimum Graduate Veg/Non Veg Contact:7358200722

40 YRS, IT Professional, Australian Citizenship. Seeks Bride MBBS Doctor, Willing to Settle in Australia, Caste No Bar, Divorcee also Pref. without Child. Age 35 to 40yrs. Ct: 98844 83605

ELITE MUDALIYAR, 33yrs, BE, MBA, Elite Business Family, Own IT Company in Chennai. 9710093999/ 8939691888

PILLAI, 42/172, BA, Fair, Handsome, Working Media, 7L p.a. Seeks Suitable Educated, Fair Bride 8870099659

HINDU NADAR–29Y, B.Tech, M.S,/USA / 20 Lakhs/P.M, Father Bank. Seeks want to go to USA. Ct: 7397776595

SC 33/172 Doctor fair Vellore seeks doctor girl to look hospital own, caste no bar, Native North T.N 9442477699, Email: jsdco2012@gmail.com

CHRISTIAN NADAR, Doctor, Divorcee 35yrs/178cm, MBBS, Dip in Cardiology better earning lives in Nagercoil seeks qualified/ Divorced Bride. 9003983230

REMARRIAGE SENGUNTHAR 39 / 165 BE, SWE, MNC Poosam, Seeking Good Looking Girl 155cm Educated. 9443943012

M.TECH 39YRS, Asst. Prof in deemed University,Seeks Alliance from a Graduate bride.Cast no bar. 9444388976

MUDALIYAR/ PILLAI 31/ 172, B.Tech, MBA, Fair, Swathi Looking for Bride Good looking Qualified working girl, Chennai. Ct: 7200150474

CHETTIYAR, 29YRS, BE, 2Lakhs per month, IT Engineer.Seeks Suitable Bride Contact: 9710093999/ 8939691888

IYER Groom Mouthgalyam Pooradathi Meenam 41 yrs, TCS Non IT Chennai Sub-sect no bar. Ct: 97908 27138

ALLIANCE INVITED for Tamil Brahmin Boy, 30, Srivatsa Gothram, Working in US,SFO from Professionally Qualified Girls. CT: sk2023uma@gmail.com , Whatsapp: +919840567668.

IYER BRAHMIN 65 Years Propertied, Pensioner, Good Health. Seeks Life Partner. Ct: 9360209998

Tamil Iyer Boy 30yrs B.E / PGDB&F, Working, Own House, Family well settled in Chennai, Seeks Qualified, Working Bride with Good Family Back-Ground. Ct:9080393228 / 9444010933

TAMIL

IYER VADAMAL, Kasyapa Poorattathi 44yrs / 161cm, M.Sc, Working in MNC Chennai, 18L P.A, seeks Educated Employed/Un Employed Bride. subsect No Bar. Ct:9943306563/044-29503379

Soliza Valalar Fair 34/168 BE, MSc Applied Behaviour Analyst Corporate Company Bangalore seeking Fair Girl from Good Family. Raghu Dosa Makara Rasi, Utthradam, Parikara Chevvai 8807544907. caste no bar.

Tamil Brahmin Vadama Bharatwaja Mirugaseerisham 6 footer BE professional in multinational bank Pune seeking suitable Brahmin bride contact 9840218954 or PO Box no.

✔ **Faculty of Violin TNJJMFU, Annual Income 12L, Age 43, Ht 5'7". Performer and Private Classes, Vadagalai Iyengar, Ct: 9840678653**

TELUGU

GAVARA 27/180 cm Pooram Simmam B.E-ECE Working in MNC Rs.8Lac p.a seek suitable well settled Qlfd working Bride subsect no bar. CT:94440-23748

KAMMA NAIDU 49/186 Sadayam, MCA Divorcee No Issues, IT Project Manager, 30 Lacs. Seeks Bride. 8248522648

BALIJA 28/ 176cms /Kiruthigai/ BE good salary, IT sector, Chennai. Seeks bride. Ct 9677140810.

BALIJA 29/180 cms, Magam, Simma Raasi /BE/ M.S (Ger) working in Germany 51Lpa. Financially Sound. Seeks Suitable Qualified Bride–Sub Sects No Bar. Ct: 9442623203 / 9442838203

WANTED BRIDE, Caste no bar/ Nadar / M.Sc. / C.Govt / PGT / 80000 pm / 39yrs / 170 Ph: 9494003635

NAIDU ELITE 29/179, Very Handsome, B.ARCH, 7000000.PA, Business Family, 200.Cr. 9342409272,9043991629

Kamavar Naidu, 26yr/175cm, Magam, BE(CSE) Working in Bangalore,12LPA Upper middle class.Chennai seeks suitable Bride. 9003887956/ 9944900410

URDU

MUSLIM HANAFI, TCS-software consultant, 84k, 31/180 cm seeks suitable bride. Ct: 9710920266.

BRIDES & GROOMS WANTED

HINDI

28/5'6" B'ful Gaur Brahmin girl,Fashion Designer&Content Writer,Pure Veg IAS/IPS/Civil Service/Profnl Qlfd MNC employee,Income around 50Lacs Prefd only Brahmin.Call/W.A 9315373354

MARRIAGE BUREAU

NAIDUS ONLY Doctors, Engineers PG UG, USA UK. 98434 53228, 97874 53228

US UK Europe All Caste Religion 1st Marriage Remarriage. Ct:8248757840

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GENERAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS hereby given that equity shares of Hindustan Zinc Ltd in Sunita Walis name under Folio S004957 are lost/ misplaced and application for duplicate certificates is made to the Company.Total shares 4000, Certificate Numbers 1110 and 2405, Distinctive Nos from 2112324406 to 2112326405 and from 4224983906 to 4224985905.Any person having claim on these Shares should lodge the same with the Companys Registered Office Yashad Bhawan, Yashadgarh, Udaipur 313004 within 21 days from this notice else the Company will issue duplicate certificates to the aforesaid applicant without any further intimation.

Groundsmen at work as rains stop the cricket World Cup match between Pakistan and New Zealand at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru on Saturday. K. MURALI KUMAR

City may receive widespread rainfall for next three days

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The city is likely to receive widespread rainfall for the next three days, the India Metrological Department (IMD) has predicted.

The forecast said the city is likely to receive moderate to heavy spells of rain accompanied by thunderstorms.

According to the IMD, there is a trough in easterlies over interior Karnataka that extends up to 1.5 km above the mean sea level. Under the influence of this weather system, coastal Karnataka and south interior Karnataka is very likely to experience widespread rainfall from November 4 to 7, IMD said.

On Saturday, several pockets of the city received moderate to heavy spells of rain disrupting normal traffic, even as motorists struggled to wade through flooded roads.

The rain has also brought a little respite to people as it cooled down temperatures.

According to the traffic police, a stretch of the Marathahalli main road in Vinayak Nagar was flooded causing a traffic snarl. Flooding was also reported at Basavanagara junction, Panattur railway bridge, and DB Halli road towards Sakra hospital. A few stretches of the Bannerghatta road were also flooded resulting in slow-moving traffic and many used the sub-arterial roads.

Additional bus services for Deepavali

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The KSRTC on Saturday announced an additional 2,000 bus services for the Deepavali season.

The special buses will operate from Bengaluru to various places from November 10 to 12, and will again operate from November 14 to 15 from various places to Bengaluru.

Special buses will be exclusively operated from Kempegowda bus stand to Dharmasthala, Kukke Subramanya, Shivamogga, Hassan, Mangaluru, Kundapura, Sringeri, Horanadu, Davangere, Hubballi, Dharwad, Kalaburagi, Ballari, Koppal, Yadgir, Bidar, and so on. Special buses from Mysuru Road bus station will be exclusively operated towards Mysuru, Hunsur, Periyapatna, Virajpet, Kushalanagar, and Mercara.

All-premier special buses will be operated from BMTC bus station Shantinagar TTMC to Madurai, Kumbakonam, Chennai, Coimbatore, and other places in Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

'India is at an inflexion point'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

India is at an inflexion point, and the opportunities in front of young India are infinite and the power to realise this potential truly lies in the education of our youth and the skills they acquire, said Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Union Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Electronics and Information Technology. He was speaking on Saturday at the launch of Ekya Nava - K12 Maker School of Innovation, Creativity and Design.

Trisha, founder of Ekya Schools, underlined the importance of an education that equips students with flexible skills to proper in an ever-changing world.

Why the Kannada film industry needs more local stories

The three Shettys — Rakshit, Raj, and Rishab — have championed the Dakshina Kannada culture, but other regions of the State lack a solid representation in Kannada films

Vivek M.V.
BENGALURU

In the final shot of the trailer of *Ulidavaru Kandante* (2014), Rakshit Shetty kicks down a door before his name arrives on-screen under the writer-director credit. Looking back, it's undeniable that the *Rashomon* (Akira Kurosawa's 1950 classic)-inspired film also opened the doors to establishing the coastal culture in mainstream Kannada cinema.

A cult favourite today, *Ulidavaru Kandante* was a neo-noir gangster film set in Udupi.

This gave birth to more stories from Dakshina Kannada, as Rishab Shetty, Raj B Shetty, and Anup Bhandari established themselves in the mainstream field.

Posters of *Orchestra Mysuru*, *Kantara*, and *Uttarakaanda*.

Rakshit Shetty in *Ulidavaru Kandante*. A cult favourite today, this was a neo-noir gangster film set in Udupi and it gave birth to more stories from Dakshina Kannada.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Mysore-based films

S. Shyam Prasad, film writer, explains why. "Kannada films, for a long time, were basically Mysore films. It takes a long time to recourse history," he observes. "All regions of Karnataka got integrated into a single entity in 1956, which was named Mysore State. The Kannada talkie movies already started in 1934 and were Mysore-based. The early talkie era based in Madras had mainly Old Mysore Brahmins. Even when the film industry shifted to Bengaluru, the films still had a strong representation of Old Mysore."

The representation of a region in a film depends on how close the story is to the personal life of the filmmaker. "S. Siddalingaiah was the master of portraying village life, probably due to his real-life experiences," points out Mr. Prasad.

Off-beat or parallel movies have depicted the way of life present in several small towns and districts of Karnataka. Girish Kasaravalli's *Dweepa* mirrored the life of people in Sagar in Shivamogga. One could hear the dialect of North Karnataka in Sundar Krishna Urs' *Sangya Balya* (shot in Belagavi).

In the present day too, groups of parallel cinema makers aren't shy of setting films in the ethos of their hometowns.

Natesh Hegde's *Pedro,* about an outcast who faces opposition from an entire community, is set in Mr. Hegde's village in the Western Ghats, while Utsav Gonwar's *Photo* shows the fate of a Raichur boy in the wake of the migrant exodus during the pandemic.

In the mainstream space, ever since Bengaluru's Gandhinagar became a film hub, there have been urban-based films from Bengaluru and Mysuru-born filmmakers.

"Upendra is a native of coastal Karnataka, but his upbringing in Bengaluru is reflected in his films. His films showcase an average cosmopolitan Kannadiga's insecurities, prejudices, hopes, and adventures," explains Mr. Prasad.

Phani Ramachandra's comedy-dramas with Anant Nag also portrayed the middle-class life of Bengaluru Kannadigas.

The advent of filmmakers from Mangaluru came as a refreshing change.

If it was the tiger dance in Rakshit's *Ulidavaru Kandante,* Bhoota Khola *in Kantara* came to the limelight. *Garuda Gamana Vrishabha Vahana* was Raj's interpretation of the underworld in Mangaluru, and Anup's mystery thriller *RangiTaranga* explored the impact of holy spirits and superstitions on the lives of the coastal Karnataka people. "There is so much history and folklore of Dakshina Kannada yet to get represented on the big screen," says Mr. Anup.

Even the dialect spoken changes as you move from one place to another, says Harish Mallya, curator for the Bengaluru International Film Festival.

"Rakshit speaks Udupi Kannada in *Ulidavaru Kandante* while Raj speaks Mangaluru Kannada in *GGVV*," he says.

North Karnataka

The stereotypical and comical portrayal of people outside the Mysuru and Bengaluru regions bothers filmmakers from small towns. Rohit Padaki lives in Bengaluru, but he is a native of Dharwad.

While the coastal region may be better represented today in Kannada cinema, the culture of northern districts is still to make its presence felt.

The filmmaker is now gearing up for his two-part film *Uttarakaanda,* which is about the gang wars of North Karnataka. "Just like how Punjab has a strong presence in Bollywood, North Karnataka can have a similar effect on the Kannada industry," adds Mr. Rohit.

Recent films such as *Orchestra Mysuru* (based in Mysuru) and *Tagaru Palya* (Mandya) attempted to ensure the backdrop played a crucial role in the narrative and didn't just emphasise the dialect. More filmmaking talents from small towns of Karnataka can lead to unique stories on the Kannada celluloid.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. CAO/CN/BNC/80/2023 Date: 30.10.2023

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following work.

Description of Work	Appx. Value
Hubballi - Ballari section: Balance works for proposed construction of ROB of span 1x42m Bowstring Girder for Railway portion and 12x18.30m PSC Girders for approaches with U-trough retaining wall in lieu of LC No.32 at Km.56/300-400. **(Tender Ref. No. UBL-ROB-LC-32-R)**	Rs. 10,79,19,331/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Up to 15:00 hrs. of 20.11.2023**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Deputy Chief Engineer/Construction/Works Bengaluru Cantonment

PUB/473/AAV/PRB/SWR/2023-24

South Western Railway-SWR @SWRRLY SWRRLY

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

Tender Notice for Conventional Brake Rigging Arrangement

Tender Notice No. TRS-BSP-2023-24/01. Date : 30.10.2023. Tender No: TRS-BSP-23-24-IRSP-CBR-1

Name of Work : Conventional Brake Rigging arrangement in 25 KV AC 3 Phase Electric Locomotive type WAG 9 for High Speed Operation.

Tender Value : ₹ 1,95,94,476.76/-. **EMD :** ₹ 2,48,000/-. **Submission of Tender :** Upto 15:00 hrs. on dtd. 07.12.2023. **Opening of Tender : 15:30** hrs. on dtd. 07.12.2023.

For further details, eligibility criteria and the complete details for the above work, please contact office of the **Sr. DEE (TRS)/BSP, S.E.C. Railway** or refer/ download tender document which is available on our website: **www.ireps.gov.in**.

Sr. Divil. Elect. Engineer (TRS) CPR/10/289 S.E.C. Railway, Bilaspur.

South East Central Railway @secrail

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. Y/E.29/2023-24/37 Date: 28.10.2023

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following work.

Description of Work	Appx. Value
Supply and Provision of Escalators - 14 sets (28 Nos.) and power supply arrangements under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme over Mysuru Division.	Rs. 15,33,16,828/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Up to 11:00 hrs. of 20.11.2023**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer Mysuru

PUB/472/AAV/PRB/SWR/2023-24

South Western Railway-SWR @SWRRLY SWRRLY

पश्चिम मध्य रेल

वाणिज्य विभाग

क्रमांकः जबल/सी/170/ई–ऑक्शन/विविध/23 दिनांकः 31.10.2023

वरि. मंडल वाणिज्य प्रबंधक जबलपुर द्वारा IREPS पर पंजीकृत संस्थाओं से ई–ऑक्शन के माध्यम से विज्ञापन एवं एसएलआरलीजिंग ठेके हेतु बोलियाँ आमंत्रित की जा रही है। ऑक्शन कैटेलॉग को IREPS की वेबसाईट www.ireps.gov.in पर प्रकाशित किया जा चुका है जबलपुर मंडल के आगामी ई–ऑक्शन का विवरण निम्नवत है। **श्रेणी– पार्सल लीजिंग, कैटेलॉग**– JBP-C-Parcel-31**एसेट विवरण**– जबलपुर मंडल की गाड़ी संख्या 12194, 11265, 12160, 05705, 11651, 18248, 11754, 22938, 11703, 11756, 22190, 22192, 12186, 20827, 22174, 12427, 05703, 22188, 22162, 12062, 20906, 11464, 11705, 22189, 11706, 12192, 12181, 22181, 11751 के एसएलआर लीजिंग हेतु। जबलपुर मंडल की गाड़ी संख्या 12187–12188 एवं 11447–11448 के पार्सल यान लीजिंग हेतु। **आ**क्शन प्रारंभ– 17.11.2023 को 10:00 बजे, ऑक्शन समापन– 17.11.2023 को 16:20 बजे। **1.** बोलीदाताओ को सलाह दी जाती है कि ई–ऑक्शन से संबंधित जानकारी के लिए रेलवे की वेबसाईट www.ireps.gov.in देखे। **2.** उक्त ई–ऑक्शन आई.आर.ई.पी.एस.(IREPS) के ई–ऑक्शन मॉडयूल के माध्यम से आमंत्रित किया गया है। **3. ई–ऑ**क्शन संबंधित समस्त जानकारी जैसे पात्रता, कार्य का दायरा, ठेके की अवधि, नियम व शर्तें आदि आई.आर.ई.पी.एस. (IREPS) की वेबसाईट www.ireps.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है। **4. बोलीदाता** IREPS में उल्लेखित दिनांक एवं समय के अनुसार ही ई–ऑक्शन में भाग ले सकते है। **5.** सभी संभावित बोलीदाताओं से अनुरोध है कि ई–ऑक्शन से संबंधित किसी भी शुद्धिपत्र हेतु नियमित रूप से रेलवे की वेबसाईट www.ireps.gov.in का अवलोकन करें। **मंडल रेल प्रबंधक (वाणिज्य), पमरे, जबलपुर**

स्वच्छ भारत अभियान एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public are hereby informed that, our client has proposed to purchase the Schedule property from its present owner **MR.KALIDAS RAO VEDULA,** Person/s, Financial Institution/s, Bank objecting for the proposed purchase or having any right, share, title and interest in the Schedule property may lodge their objections/claims with the undersigned along with supporting documentary evidence within **1 week** from this day of publication and any objection/claims received thereafter will not be binding on our client and our client will proceed to purchase the below mentioned Schedule property as if there are no claims/objections.

-:SCHEDULE PROPERTY:-

All that piece and parcel of an immovable Residential **Apartment bearing No.3217, in Twenty First Floor, of Tower-3 in "PRESTIGE MISTY WATERS"**, having a **super built–up area of 1333 Sq.Ft., along with 333 Sq.Ft. of UDS**, inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, Staircases and other areas of common use, with right to use **One covered Car Parking Space in the upper Basement Level bearing No.U-D4** constructed on Property being non-agricultural converted lands Comprised in Survey Nos.6/2A, 6/2B and 6/2C, in Hebbal Ammanikere Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk and Sy.No.21/3 of Kempapura Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk., in all totally admeasuring 5 Acres 31.5 Guntas (less areas surrendered to Bangalore Development Authority) and bearing Municipal No.745/21/3, 6/2A, 6/2B, 6/2C & 21/4(in the records of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike) in Municipal Ward No.7, Kempapura, Bangalore.

V.S.Rai & Associates, LAW FIRM
No.23,"Venkatadri" 6th Main,
5th Cross, S.R.Nagar, Bangalore-27.
Mob:98441 55041, 9620579310

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients **Mr. SANTANU PAINE, S/o Mr. Biswanath Paine, & Mrs. RITA PAINE, W/o Mr. Santanu Paine,** are the joint owners of the immovable property BBMP Khatha No.20/1, PID No.95-22-20/1, 2nd E Cross, Sultanpalya, in Ward No.32(95), Bengaluru-560 032, (formerly Old No.31 & 32, Portion of Sy. No.52/3, Gramathana of Sultanpalya, Matadahalli Dhakle, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk). That my clients have lost the following previous title deeds of the said property viz., **(a) SALE DEED** dated 24-07-1972, Registered as No.2083/1972-73, of Book I, Volume 2374, at pages 171-173;

and **(b) DEED OF SETTLEMENT** dated 25-11-1981, Registered as No. 3054, of Book I, Volume 2894, at pages 180-184, both registered in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Gandhinagar, Bangalore.

A Complaint has been lodged with the Bangalore City Police Unit, Bangalore, on 03-11-2023, vide Lost Report No.0792419/2023, with Bangalore City Police Unit, Bengaluru, with regard to the said loss of the above documents.

Any persons having found and are in custody of the above mentioned documents may hand over the same to the undersigned/owners of the property/Police Station, within a period of **10 (Ten) days,** failing which, my clients will obtain the certified Copies of the above documents, which shall be treated as original deeds thereof.

RAMESH D SHAH, ADVOCATE
No.1, 1st Floor, 4th Cross, Meenakshi Koil St., Cross, Shivajinagar, Bangalore-560051.
E-mail:rame3003@gmail.com
Bangalore Date : 03/11/2023

EAST COAST RAILWAY

Tender No. FOIS_DSCRPF_NCC_TKRI

NAME OF WORK : 1. SIGNAL & TELECOM PORTION OF WORK IN CONNECTION WITH CONSTRUCTION OF SERVICE BUILDING FOR SENIOR DIVISIONAL SECURITY COMMISSIONER / RPF / WALTAIR'S ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE AT VISAKHAPATNAM OF WALTAIR DIVISION. 2. TELECOM PORTION OF WORK IN CONNECTION WITH CONSTRUCTION OF SERVICE BUILDING AND OTHER INFRASTRUCTURAL FACILITIES FOR WASHING LINES OF NCC / VISAKHAPATNAM OF WALTAIR DIVISION. 3. PROVISION OF FOIS CONNECTIVITY AT TIKIRI OF WALTAIR DIVISION. 4. PROVISION OF FOIS CONNECTIVITY TO SENIOR SECTION ENGINEER / TRIP SHED / VISAKHAPATNAM OF WALTAIR DIVISION.

Advertised Value (₹) : 15,51,157.00, EMD (₹) : 31,000.00, Period of Completion : 06 Months.

Bidding Start Date : 06.11.2023

Tender Closing Date and Time : At 1700 Hrs. of 20.11.2023

Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.

Complete information including e-Tender documents of the above e-Tenders is available in website **http://www.ireps.gov.in**

Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer / Waltair

PR-733/O/23-24

IN THE HON'BLE PRINCIPAL IV ADDL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE AT BANGALORE (C.C.H:21) P& S.C.No,25051 of 2023

BETWEEN:

1. Mrs.PARVATHY R MENON Aged 64 years, w/o. Late Chettuvetty Raghavan Menon

2. MRS.LAKSHMI.R.MENON Aged 37 years D/o late Mr.Chettuvetty Raghavan Menon
Represented by Mother and POA Holder
Mrs. PARVATHY R MENON

3. MALINI.R.MENON Aged 35 years D/o Late Mr.Chettuvetty Raghavan Menon
All at A2 Brunton Court 5/15 Brunton Road Cross Bangalore 560025. **...PETITIONERS**

AND:

NIL. ...RESPONDENTS

PUBLIC NOTICE

Where as the above named PETITIONERS has filed the above Petition Under Section 278 of the Indian Succession Act 1925, praying for the issue of Letters of Administration in favour of the PETITIONERS to succeed the assets of late **Mr.Chettuvetty Raghavan Menon** who died **on 10-12-2018** at Bangalore.

Interested parties are hereby informed to appear in this Court either by in person or by a pleader duly instructed on the **13.12.2023 at 11'0 Clock** to show cause against the petition failing, wherein, the matter will be heard and determined exparte.

SCHEDULE-A
(Description of land)

All that piece and parcel of the property comprising of land and building consisting of Ground and First floor and bearing Municipal Nos.5/6 and 5/15 respectively, Brunton road Cross, Division No.61, Bangalore measuring East to West 50 feet and North To South:60 feet, in all measuring 3000 Sq.ft and - bounded as follows: **East: 30 ft Road: West: Private Property; North: Property No. 5/5, Brunton Road, and South:27 ft wide Road** along with An undivided 30.51% (Thirty point five one Percent) share in the land comprised in Schedule A property, equivalent to about 915.30 Sq.ft,

(Description of the apartment)

A three Bedroom apartment bearing No.A-2, (bearing separate Municipal No.5/15), Brunton Road Cross, Div. No.61, Bangalore) on the first floor of the building known as Brunton Court with a super built up area of 2101.25 Sq.ft (which includes proportionate share in common areas and balconies) with one car parking space in the basement.

SCHEDULE-B

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing: Sy.No. 148/3, Dry Extent Hec.0.63.0 in this Ac.0. 14.1/2, Sy.No. 148/4, Dry Extent Hec. 0.60.5 in this Ac.0.57.1/2, Sy.No. 151/A, Dry Extent Hec.0.32.0 in this Ac. 0.0.21 Sy.No. 151/2, Dry Extent Hec. 1.04.5 in this Ac.0.08, Totally measuring an extent of 1.01 Acre and donated as Agriculture unit No.39 situated at **Sevaganapalli village bearing Hosur Taluk, Hosur Sub- Registration dist,: Krishnagiri registration Dist, Tamilnadu and bounded on the: Dharmapuri Dist, East: Agricultural unit No.38; West:Agricultural Unit No. 40; North:Agricultural Unit No. 48; South:Cart Track;**

Within these boundaries the above said extent of Acre 1.01 (One Acre One Cent Only) is covered under this deed of sale.

Given under my hand and seal of this court on this **26th day of October 2023** at Bangalore

By order of the Court
Deputy Registrar
City Civil Court
Mayo Hall Unit, Bangalore
Address for Service
Advocates for PETITIONERS
VIREN MICHAEL PERES
No.46/1-1, Wheeler Road,
Cox Town Bangalore-560005
Tel:080-25485917
viren.peres @gmail.com

MSME TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
Ministry of MSME, Govt of India Society
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LEAN SIX SIGMA - GREEN BELT
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Date : 8 Days on 25th, 26th November, 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th, 16th & 17th December 2023
Time : 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
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Website: www.ppdcagra.dcmsme.gov.in

E-CERTIFICATE WILL BE AWARDED

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Zonal Office Mumbai
W: www.jkbank.com

Extension w.r.t invitation of bids for lease basis or outright purchase of premises for Koramangala Branch (Bengaluru).

With reference to the Tender Notice dated **05/09/2023**, issued by this Office regarding the invitation of bids for lease basis or outright purchase of premises for Branch Koramangala (Bengaluru), the last date for receipt of proposals complete in all respect as specified in tender document in the format prescribed by Bank is extended upto **15th of November 2023 (05:00 PM IST).**

The relevant documents and the terms and conditions relating to same can be downloaded from Bank's website **www.jkbank.com** or in person from Zonal Office Mumbai or Cluster Office Bangalore from from **06/11/2023.**

The Bank reserves the right to cancel/reject any/all offer(s) without assigning any reason thereof.

Dated: 04/11/2023 **Zonal Head Mumbai**

Registered office : Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India
CIN: L65110JK1938SGC000048 ; **T :** +91 (0)194 2481 930-35 ; **F :** +91 (0)194 248 1928;
E : info@jkbmail.com ; **W :** www.jkbank.com

J&K Bank Serving To Empower

Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited
Zonal Office Mumbai
W: www.jkbank.com

Extension w.r.t invitation of bids for lease basis or outright purchase of premises for Jayanagar Branch (Bengaluru).

With reference to the Tender Notice dated **05/09/2023**, issued by this Office regarding the invitation of bids for lease basis or outright purchase of premises for Branch Jayanagar (Bengaluru), the last date for receipt of proposals complete in all respect as specified in tender document in the format prescribed by Bank is extended upto **15th of November 2023 (05:00 PM IST).**

The relevant documents and the terms and conditions relating to same can be downloaded from Bank's website **www.jkbank.com** or in person from Zonal Office Mumbai or Cluster Office Bangalore from from **06/11/2023.**

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Dated: 05/11/2023 **Zonal Head Mumbai**

Registered office : Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India
CIN: L65110JK1938SGC000048 ; **T :** +91 (0)194 2481 930-35 ; **F :** +91 (0)194 248 1928;
E : info@jkbmail.com ; **W :** www.jkbank.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby informed that my clients **1) Mr.Imam Khan** S/o Late.Amanulla Khan, aged about 37 years, residing at No.28, 1st Main 1st Cross, New Gurappana Playa, Bangaore-560 029, **2) Mr.Habeeb Ulla Khan** S/o Muneer Ahmed Khan, aged about 39 years, residing at No.08, 1st Main 1st Cross, New Gurappana Playa, Bangaore-560 029, **3) Mr.Zabi Ulla Khan** S/o Nabi Ulla Khan, aged about 43 years, residing at No.58, 8th 'C' Main, New Gurappana Playa, Bangaore-560 029 & **4) MRS.ISHRATH FATHIMA** W/o Late Mohammed Hafeezulla, aged about 53, residing at No.45, 3rd Cross, Anjaneya Temple Street. Y.G.Palya, Bangalore-560 047 are intend to Purchase the schedule property from its owners Mr.Riyaz Baig and his brothers all are residing at No.19, 'C' Cross, 8th 'B' Main Road, Old Gurappana Playa, Bangalore.

The general public are hereby notified that in case if any person/s asserting any legitimate right, objection/s or claim over the schedule property or any part thereof, they may forward such right/s or objection/s or claim/s along with the relevant documentary proof, to the undersigned with **7 days** from hereof. All such claims/objections received after 7 days from the date of notification shall not be considered.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Residential property bearing **Site Nos.15 & 16,** in Old Sy No.58/3, New Corporation Nos.15 & 16, BBMP Khatha No. 58/3-15 & 16, situated at **Gurappanapalya, Corporation Division No.35, Bangalore, Now known as 8th 'B' Main Road, New Gurappanapalya, Bangalore** presently comes under the jurisdiction of Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike-Ward No.171-Gurappanapaly, measuring **East to West 63 Feet** and **North to South 40 feet,** totally measuring **2520 square feet,** along with 10 Squares RCC roofed building constructed thereon and bounded on the:- **East by : Private Property, West by : 20 Feet Road, North by : 20 Feet Road, South by : Site Nos.11 & 12.**

M.R.REVANNA, Advocate
No.264, 1st Floor, Behind Ganesh Temple Begur Road, Bommanahalli
Bangalore-560068. Ph : 99806 28324

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to general public that, on behalf of my client **Smt. Thara, T,** W/o Vijay Shankar.B.N, Aged about 52 years, R/at: #230, Bellandur Main Road, Near BWSSB office, Bellandur, Bangalore- 560 103., that the agricultural land bearing Sy No. 504/1 measuring 05 acres 04 guntas, situated at, Anekal Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, which is more particularly described in the schedule hereunder belongs to Sri. R.K.Surendra Babu, S/o R. Krishnaiah Chetty, Aged about 67 years, No. 85, 3rd Floor, Nagasandra Main Road, Tata Silk Farm, Bangalore - 560028, which is decided by my client to purchase the below mentioned schedule property.

Therefore any person/s having any claim in respect of the below mentioned schedule property or part thereof by way of sale, exchange, mortgage, charge, gift, maintenance, inheritance, possession, lease, tenancy, sub tenancy, lien, license, hypothecation transfer of title or beneficial interest under an trust right of prescription or pre – emption or under any agreement or other disposition or under any decree, order or award or otherwise claiming whomsoever are hereby requested to make the same known in writing together with supporting documents to the undersigned my office address below mentioned within period of **7 days** of this publication hereof failing which the claim of such person/s will deemed to be have been waived and or abandoned.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the agricultural land bearing **Sy No. 504/1** measuring **05 acres 04 guntas,** situated at, **Anekal Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District,** bounded on;

East by : Land in Sy No. 504/2, West by : Private property/Land of Devara Kondappa, North by : Private property/Land of Katagiriyappa, South by : Private property/Land of Devamma.

MALLIKARJUNA.B.K, Advocate,
Office at, No. 1, 1st floor, Mahadeshwara Building, Attibele Road, Anekal Town, Bangalore Urban District. Ph:9482018477, Email: mbkadd@gmail.com

ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ನನ್ನ ಕಕ್ಷಿದಾರರಾದ ಎಂ. ವಿಶ್ವನಾಥ್ ಪೈನ್ ಲೇಟ್ ಮುನಿಸ್ವಾಮಪ್ಪ, ನಂ.334, ಹೊರಮಾವು, ಮಾರಮ್ಮ ದೇವಸ್ಥಾನದ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಉತ್ತರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560043 ರವರು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಹೊಸಕೋಟೆ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ನಂದಗುಡಿ ಹೋಬಳಿ, **ಮೋತಕದಹಳ್ಳಿ** ಗ್ರಾಮಕ್ಕೆ ಸೇರಿರುವ ಸರ್ವೆ ನಂಬರುಗಳಾದ **96/4 ರಲ್ಲಿ 0-33.12 ಗುಂಟೆ, 96/1 ರಲ್ಲಿ 0-30.12 ಗುಂಟೆ, 96/6 ರಲ್ಲಿ 0-09 ಗುಂಟೆ ಒಟ್ಟು 1-33.08 ಗುಂಟೆ** ಜಮೀನುಗಳನ್ನು ಕ್ರಯಕ್ಕೆ ಪಡೆದು, ಕ್ರಯದ ಕರಾರು ಪತ್ರವು ಹೊಸಕೋಟೆ ಉಪ ನೋಂದಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೇ ಪುಸ್ತಕದ ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜು ನಂ. ಹೆಚ್ಎಸ್ಕೆ-1-09924/2022-23 ದಿನಾಂಕ 16/10/2023 ರಂದು ನೋಂದಾವಣೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಈ ಜಮೀನುಗಳ ಮೇಲೆ ಯಾರಿಗಾದರು ಏನಾದರು ಹಕ್ಕು ಬಾಧ್ಯತೆ, ಹಿತಾಸಕ್ತಿ ಮತ್ತು ತಂಟೆ ತಕರಾರು ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ **ಫೋನ್ ನಂ. 9972428692 ಅಥವಾ ನನ್ನ ಕಕ್ಷಿದಾರರ ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ನಂ. 9019289874** ಗೆ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯು 15 ದಿನಗಳ ಒಳಗಾಗಿ ಸೂಕ್ತ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು ಇಲ್ಲವಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಸದರಿ ಆಸ್ತಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ತಂಟೆ ತಕರಾರು ಇರುವುದಿಲ್ಲವೆಂದು ಭಾವಿಸಿ ಶುದ್ಧ ಕ್ರಯ ಪತ್ರ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಮಾಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಾರೆಂದು ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಈ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯನ್ನು ನೀಡಿದ್ದೇವೆ.

ಪಿಡ್ಯೂಲ್ ಸ್ವತ್ತುಗಳ ವಿವರ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಹೊಸಕೋಟೆ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ನಂದಗುಡಿ ಹೋಬಳಿ, **ಮೋತಕದಹಳ್ಳಿ** ಗ್ರಾಮಕ್ಕೆ ಸೇರಿರುವ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಸರ್ವೆ ನಂಬರುಗಳಿಗೆ ಚಕ್ಕುಬಂದಿ :

1) 96/4 ರಲ್ಲಿ 0-33.12 ಗುಂಟೆ ಜಮೀನಿಗೆ ಚಕ್ಕುಬಂದಿ:-
ಪೂರ್ವಕ್ಕೆ : ಕಮಲಮ್ಮ ನವರ ಜಮೀನು **ಪಶ್ಚಿಮಕ್ಕೆ** : ಎಂ.ವಿ. ಮಂಜುಳ ರವರ ಜಮೀನು, **ಉತ್ತರಕ್ಕೆ** : ರಸ್ತೆ, **ದಕ್ಷಿಣಕ್ಕೆ** : ಶಾಂತಮ್ಮ ರವರ ಜಮೀನು.

2) 96/1 ರಲ್ಲಿ 0-30.12 ಗುಂಟೆ ಜಮೀನಿಗೆ ಚಕ್ಕುಬಂದಿ :-
ಪೂರ್ವಕ್ಕೆ : ಎಂ.ವಿ. ಆನಂದ್ ರವರ ಜಮೀನು, **ಪಶ್ಚಿಮಕ್ಕೆ** : ಶಾಂತಮ್ಮ ರವರ ಜಮೀನು, **ಉತ್ತರಕ್ಕೆ** : ರಸ್ತೆ, **ದಕ್ಷಿಣಕ್ಕೆ** : ಜೌರಪ್ಪ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಭಾಕರ್ ರವರ ಜಮೀನು.

3) 96/6 ರಲ್ಲಿ 0-09 ಗುಂಟೆ ಜಮೀನಿಗೆ ಚಕ್ಕುಬಂದಿ:-
ಪೂರ್ವಕ್ಕೆ : ಶಾಂತಮ್ಮ ರವರ ಜಮೀನು, **ಪಶ್ಚಿಮಕ್ಕೆ** : ಎಂ.ವಿ. ಮಂಜುಳ ರವರ ಜಮೀನು, **ಉತ್ತರಕ್ಕೆ** : ನಾಗಪ್ಪ ರವರ ಜಮೀನು, **ದಕ್ಷಿಣಕ್ಕೆ** : ಶಾಂತಮ್ಮ ರವರ ಜಮೀನು.

ಹರೀಶ್ .ಎಂ, ವಕೀಲರು
ವೆಂಕಮ್ಮ ಕಾಂಪ್ಲೆಕ್ಸ್, ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ,
ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ಕಛೇರಿ ಹತ್ತಿರ, ಹೊಸಕೋಟೆ-562 114.
ಮೊ : 9972428692 ದಿನಾಂಕ: : 04.11.2023

Bathed in blue: Grass being dyed at a manufacturing unit.

Basking in colours: A worker spreads out dyed grass for drying.

Spread out: Dyed grass being dried at a production unit.

New ways: A power loom manufacturing mats at Unniyur.

Sewing together: A worker gives finishing touches to a mat.

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Government of Karnataka

District Backward Classes Welfare Department

Room No. 46, Second Floor, Karur Industrial Area,
District Administration Bhavan, Davanagere.
e-Mail: dobcmdavanagere@gmail.com Ph. No.: 08192-262973

No.: BCWD/D/O.Personnel/CR-65/2023-24 Date: 26.10.2023

Tender Notice

-Tender is invited for availing through outsource agency services of personnel for vacant posts of cooks, kitchen assistants and security guards, housekeeping personnel, attenders at Hostels, Ashrama School/Morarji Desai Residential Schools and for data entry operators/personnel vacant at District Office and Taluk Office of Backward Classes Welfare Department, Davanagere District for the year 2023-24. In this regard fixed e-tender bid forms and further information can be obtained and submitted in http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Further details can be obtained from this office during office hours, Office Ph. No.: 08192-262973
Tender Number of e-Tender invited
Tender Number:- BCWD/2023-24/SE0011

ಮಾಸಾಇ/ಡಿವಿಜಿ/321
/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2023–24

Sd/- District Officer Backward Classes Welfare Department, Davanagere.

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: CEE/TZB/SEE(O)/AEE-4/23-24/13199 & 13200 Date: 02.11.2023.

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION

(THROUGH-E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

KPTCL Invites bids for the following works:

1) Enquiry No. KPTCL/CEE/TR/BZ/TK-247 for Combined package : (1) Increasing the vertical clearance of existing 66kV Hebbal-Yellurbande-ITI DC line crossing proposed M/s K-RIDE railway track between chainage No 213/300-213/400 near Shampura level crossing Shampura. (2) Increasing vertical clearance of existing 66kV SC tap line to existing 66/11kV Pottery road S/s crossing the proposed M/s K-RIDE railway track between chainage no 211/550-211/750 near Kadugondanahalli village, Bengaluru. (3) Increasing vertical clearance of existing 66kV Peenya-Mathikere-Hebbal DC line crossing the proposed M/s K-RIDE railway track at chainage No 7/40 near Yeshwanthpura railway station yard Bengaluru. (4) Increasing the vertical clearance of existing 66kV Peenya – Mathikere-Hebbal DC line crossing the proposed M/s. K-RIDE railway track at chainage no. 15050M near Mathikere KPTCL sub-station, Mathikere, Bengaluru on Total Turnkey basis including supply of all matching materials/equipment and erection (including civil works) of all materials/equipments, testing and commissioning.

2) Enquiry No. KPTCL/CEE/TR/BZ/TK-241(Call-4) for Providing 2Nos of 66KV Line Terminal Bays at the existing 66/11KV Banaswadi Sub-station to terminate 66KV 630 sqmm UG cable from 220/66/11KV ITI Sub-station and 220KV/66/11KV HBR Layout Sub-station by M/s. BMRCL on Total Turnkey basis including supply of all matching materials/equipment and erection (including civil works) of all materials/equipments, testing and commissioning.

The bids will be received through electronic tender mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the e-tendering process can be obtained by logging into e-procurement website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Portal on or after **08.11.2023**. Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Chief Engineer Electy., Transmission Zone, KPTCL, A.R. Circle, Bengaluru-09. Ph No. : 080-22282601/602

Finance Department
Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru

No.: FD 02 BMB 2023 Date: 04.11.2023

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

It is notified for general information that the outstanding balance of **9.39% Karnataka SDL 2023** issued in terms of the Government of Karnataka, Finance Department Notification **No. FD 02 BMB 2013** dated **November 29, 2013** will be repaid at par on **December 04, 2023** with interest due up to and including **December 03, 2023.** In the event of a holiday being declared on the aforesaid date by any State Government under the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, the loan will be repaid by the paying offices in that State on the previous working day. **No interest will accrue on the loan from and after December 04, 2023.**

As per sub-regulation 24 (2) and 24 (3) of Government Securities Regulations, 2007 payment of maturity proceeds to the registered holder of Government Security held in the form of Subsidiary General Ledger or Constituent Subsidiary General Ledger account or Stock Certificate shall be made by a pay order incorporating the relevant particulars of his bank account or by credit to the account of the holder in any bank having facility of receipt of funds through electronic means. For the purpose of making payment in respect of the securities, the original subscriber or the subsequent holders of such a Government Securities, as the case may be, shall submit to the Bank or Treasury and Sub- Treasury or branch of State Bank of India, where they are enfaced / registered for payment of interest, as the case may be, the relevant particulars of their bank account.

However, in the absence of relevant particulars of bank account / mandate for receipt of funds through electronic means, to facilitate repayment on the due date, holders of **9.39% Karnataka SDL 2023** should tender their securities at the Public Debt Office, 20 days in advance. The securities should be tendered for repayment, duly discharged on the reverse there of as under:

"Received the Principal due on the Certificate".

It should be particularly noted that at places where the treasury work is done by a branch of the State Bank of India, the securities, if they are in the form of Stock Certificates, should be tendered at the branch of the bank concerned and not at the Treasury or Sub-Treasury.

Holders who wish to receive payment at places other than those where the securities have been enfaced for payment should send them duly discharged to the Public Debt Office concerned by Registered and Insured Post. The Public Debt Office will make payment by issuing a draft payable at any Treasury / Sub- Treasury or branch of State Bank of India conducting Government Treasury work in the State of Karnataka.

Sd/-
(Dr. Reju M.T.)
Secretary to Government
(Expenditure)
Finance Department

DIPR/DD-C.P/1998/KSMCA/2023-24

Town Panchayat Anavatti-577413

Phone: 08184-200899 E-Mail: ka.anavatti.tp@gmail.com
web: www.anavattitown.mrc.gov.in

No. A.T.P./J.E.Tender/W.C.R.-01/2023-24Date: 20.10.2023

Tender Notification

(Only through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal (KPPP))

Tenders are invited through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal (KPPP) as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 2000, Rules 2000, as per Standard Tender Document Rules for implementing works in Grant released to Anavatti Town Panchayat under S.B.M.-01 Scheme for the year 2023-24 as per KW-4 Rules in Standard Tender Document from eligible contractors. Tenders can be submitted through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal (KPPP) website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sl.No. 1. Indent Number: DMCA/2023-24/OW/WORK_INDENT4751 **Approx. Amount(Rs. In lakhs):** 263.71 **Tender E.M.D.(in Rs.):** 396000/- **Time Period:** 12 Months

Tender Schedule dates under KPP Portal system are as below:

1. Date of availability of Tender Documents in KPP Portal: 20.10.2023 **2**. Date of Pre-bid meeting: 15.11.2023 **3**. Last date for submission of Tender: 20.11.2023 up to 17.30 Hrs. **4.** Date of opening Technical Bid: 22.11.2023 after 11.00 Hrs. **5**. Date of opening Financial Bid: 01.12.2023 after 11.00 Hrs. **6**. Further information can be viewed on www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Chief Officer Town Panchayat, Anavatti **Sd/- Administrative Officer Town Panchayat, Anavatti**

DIPR/smg/No.26/11/ksmca/23-24/728

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Centenarian Thimmakka plans another plantation drive near Bengaluru

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

According to the records available with Forest Department, around 380 trees were planted by Saalumarada Thimmakka on the stretch decades ago. FILE PHOTO

Days after undergoing cardiac surgery, centenarian Saalumarada Thimmakka, living up to the prefix to her name which means 'avenue of trees', is planning to plant 100 Banyan saplings along the 5-kilometre stretch between Hulikal and Kudur, in Magadi taluk of Ramanagara district.

This is the same stretch where Ms. Thimmakka, along with her husband, planted around 400 Banyan saplings decades ago. Having not been formally educated, she worked as a daily wage labourer back then.

The couple, who did not have children, decided to plant trees as their legacy. She is said to have planted over 8,000 trees, apart from the ones on this stretch, and has turned into an influential voice on fostering the environment.

With some of the trees having fallen in the last few years, Thimmakka wants to replace them with new saplings

She was honoured with the Padma Shri for her efforts in 2019, among several other awards.

With some of the trees she planted decades back having fallen in the last few years, Ms. Thimmakka wants to replace them with new saplings. "I will go and plant new Banyan saplings there. They are already ready in our nursery. I would have done it earlier if not for my health issues. As soon as I feel better, I will take it up," Ms. Thimmakka told *The Hindu*.

She also wants to extend the plantation drive beyond the stretch where she had initially planted.

According to the records available with the Forest Department, around 380 trees were planted by Ms. Thimmakka on the stretch.

As of today, the stretch has 291 trees. Forest Department officials said that some trees were uprooted due to natural causes.

"They are all old trees and do not require any maintenance. Over the years, owing to weather conditions, some trees were uprooted. A few were weakened by pest attack. Eventually, such trees did not survive," a senior official from the Ramanagara sub-division of the Forest Department said.

However, Ms. Thimmakka's foster son Umesh B.N. had a different story. He alleged that the government had not done enough to maintain Ms. Thimmakka's trees. "We know of instances when trees were intentionally cut down. The Forest Department is hasty in its actions. If anyone randomly complains, they cut down trees without investigation," he alleged.

A Forest Department official said, "We have protected all the trees Ms. Thimmakka planted along the stretch. We will look after the saplings that she intends to plant now as well."

Ms. Thimmakka has fought often for the protection of the trees. In 2019, when there was a proposal to widen the stretch of road on which she had planted trees, she appealed to then Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy that the government instead widen an alternative road to avoid felling her trees. The government did not axe any of the trees she planted.

"Her heritage should be rightly recognised the way some sites are declared as heritage sites. No damage should come to them even in the years to come," Mr. Umesh said.

Sting operations by media must be 'healthy' by adhering to norms: HC

'Role of the media in a democratic set-up is imperative. But, that cannot be stretched for entrapping anyone or luring any person into a crime'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Petitions were filed questioning the legality of corruption cases against police officials and officers and staff of the Commercial Tax Department, based on two sting operations by news channels. FILE PHOTO.

Observing that sting operations by the media should be "heathy" by adhering to norms, the High Court of Karnataka has said that all such operations in the future should be as per the guidelines issued by the News Broadcasting & Digital Standards Authority (NBDSA) and the Press Council of India.

"Following guidelines during any sting operation is imperative, failing which, such operations cannot but be termed illegal and contrary to law unless justified on a case-to-case basis," the court observed.

In case of television channels, the court said the operations should be in strict consonance with the provisions of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, the rules, and the NBDSA guidelines.

Corruption cases

Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the order on petitions questioning the legality of corruption cases registered against 20 police officers and personnel of the Bengaluru City Traffic police wing, and 13 officers and staff of the Commercial Tax Department in various districts, based on two sting operations by two private news channels during 2021-22 on acceptance of bribes.

"The role and the responsibility of the media in a democratic setup is imperative. But, imperativeness sometimes cannot be stretched for entrapping any person [through sting operations] into a crime or luring any person into a crime which otherwise he would not have committed. Such actions are to be permitted only if they are in consonance with law," Justice Nagaprasanna observed after analysing the judgments of the Supreme Court and the Delhi High Court on earlier instances of sting operations across the country.

It is in public domain that positive sting operations are those which are conducted for the benefit of society, the court said.

It pointed out that the negative sting operation is conducted against an individual, not for the benefit of society.

'Recorded demand and acceptance of bribe in media sting operations akin to a trap by probe agencies'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A sting operation, in which 20 police officers and personnel of the Bangalore city traffic police wing were caught red-handed while allowing lorries to enter prohibited zones during restricted hours by demanding and accepting bribe, is like a trap proceeding done by an investigation agency or even of a higher stature, the High Court of Karnataka has said.

Also, the court said, there was no need for the Lokayukta police to take prior approval from the competent authority under Section 17A of the Prevention of Corruption Act to conduct investigation against these public servants based on the contents of the sting operation by *Power TV* channel as the acts of demand for the bribe, acceptance and allowing movement of granite blocks-laden lorries into prohibited zones by the accused persons was clearly recorded in the sting operation.

"It is undoubtedly akin to a trap proceeding or even on a higher pedestal. Therefore, rigour or protection under Section 17A of the Act would not be applicable in cases of public servants accepting money for permitting violations of traffic," Justice Nagaprasanna also observed.

While refusing to quash a criminal case registered against the 20 police officers and personnel by dismissing their petition, the court said that "these are the cases where the government/prosecuting agencies will have to deal with an iron hand".

Meanwhile, the court quashed a case registered against 13 officers and staff of the Commercial Tax Department based on another sting operation done by another private TV channel, *Asianet Suvarna News*.

In this case, the court said that investigation could not have been initiated without the approval of the State government under Section 17A of the Act, as this sting operation did not contain all the components of a trap as it had no proof for demand for bribe but had only captured acceptance of money thrust on the officials. However, the probe in this case could have been continued had the Lokayukta obtained prior approval, but having not done so, this case had to be obliterated, the court said.

'Traffic snarls impact State's economy, besides affecting citizens'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Pointing out that one of the reasons for traffic congestion in Bengaluru city is alleged corruption by the traffic sleuths, the High Court said that the police top brass should act against such erring officials.

Justice Nagaprasanna said that the government should act immediately as "the traffic snarls caused can be considered as crimes affecting the general public and every citizen, and having cascading effect on the economy of the State." "The city has now emerged as the second most congested city in the world close to London, which is the first. Reasons for such traffic clogging are manifold," the court said.

From Page One

'State lost ₹1 crore a day to cybercrimes in 2022'

The State, comprising private enterprises, public undertakings, and individuals, would be losing ₹2.5 crore every day this year and its cumulative loss in 2023 would be over ₹900 crore.

Not just metros

According to the Minister, a general perception is that economic crimes in cyber space are an urban phenomenon and happen mostly in metros such as Bengaluru, Mumbai, or Delhi. However, the fact of the matter was that every small town and city had its share. For instance, Mysuru reported a loss of ₹ 15 crore on account of economic cybercrimes and Mandya ₹14 crore last year.

Only 50% reported

"A lot of crimes that happened offline earlier have now moved online. These include harassment of women, economic offences, and financial terrorism. Some 20% of all cases filed by the Karnataka police are related to cybercrimes. However, a sad thing is that only 50% of the cyber intrusions are reported, as victims are afraid of being named or shamed," Mr. Kharge noted.

The country had a mobile Internet penetration of 89% and a large number of youngsters were falling prey to various frauds on cyber spaces as they used certain apps, including loan apps, that were unverified, unauthorised and often illegal.

Also, the availability of these apps in vernacular language made them appealing to a large number of people, the Minister added.

For instance, Mr. Kharge said in his home town of Chittapur in Kalaburagi district, a young man recently lost some ₹89 lakh playing online games or falling prey in the hands of cyber criminals.

"The State government is playing a proactive role to curb cybercrimes rather than being reactive. If social media companies like Meta work together with the government and people in the State, cyber violations can be brought down effectively," Mr. Kharge said, while delivering a keynote address at Digital Suraksha Summit, organised for Karnataka by Meta to extend its commitment to user/child safety, and youth well-being online.

Sandhya Devanathan, vice-president, Meta in India, said: the California-based platforms company was cognisant of the empowering role its apps were playing in India, in terms of giving voice to millions of people, especially women and youth.

Timings
BENGALURU

SUNDAY, NOV. 05		
RISE	06:14	SET 17:52
RISE	00:00	SET 12:47
MONDAY, NOV. 06		
RISE	06:15	SET 17:52
RISE	00:29	SET 13:28
TUESDAY, NOV. 07		
RISE	06:15	SET 17:52
RISE	01:18	SET 14:04

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	24
Mysuru	32	22
Bengaluru	31	21

Bengaluru Today
29°C The weather will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of moderate to heavy rain and thundershower is likely to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
28°C A comfortable but humid weather to prevail. Night will be pleasant. Chances of moderate to heavy rain and thundershower.

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THE HINDU
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Importance of sustainable public health highlighted

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Doctors, who participated in the seventh all-India conference of the Medical Service Centre - a national-level socio-medical voluntary organisation - on Saturday, underlined the importance of sustainable public health in preventing the spread of newly identified infectious diseases.

Making a presentation on "Emerging and Re-emerging Viral Infections" at the conference, K.R. Raveendra, Professor of Medicine at Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute (BMCRI), said a majority of emerging and re-emerging infections are vector-borne.

"The cross-border spread of infectious diseases, an upsurge in newly identified infections along with the emergence of known infections in new geographic areas, serve as compelling reminders of the importance of ensuring strong and sustainable clinical and public health. Along with this, laboratory capacity and collaborations at local, national and international levels are also vital," he said.

Inaugurating the conference, M.V. Nadakarni, visiting professor at the Indian Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC) and former vice-chancellor of Gulbarga University, said that India ranks 132 among 198 countries as per the Human Development Index 2022. It fell by two ranks in a year during COVID-19.

Drug peddling: Jigani head constable arrested in Odisha; Karnataka police stand by him

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka police will approach Orissa High Court seeking the quashing of the FIR

The Odisha police have arrested a head constable of the Jigani police station, Bengaluru Rural District police, along with three other individuals, and claimed to have recovered 17.5 kg of ganja, worth ₹1 lakh. However, the Karnataka police have refuted the claims and said the head constable was part of an investigation and the ganja recovered was a seizure made.

The Karnataka police have now decided to approach the Orissa High Court seeking the quashing of the FIR against the police personnel.

A senior official, defending the arrested constable, said the entire episode was the result of a communication gap between a Karnataka police team that had gone to investigate a narcotics case and the local Odisha police.

The Sarangada police on Friday arrested Anand K., head constable with the Jigani police, along with Sham Kumar, a known peddler, and his two associates, Jayanth Kumar and Naresh Kumar.

The police officer was waiting with the trio for a bus to Berhampura when the local police arrested them. The accused tried to escape but were arrested after a chase, the Odisha police have reportedly claimed.

Mr. Anand claimed that he had come for an investigation and was on the pursuit of a peddler related to a case registered in the Jigani police station.

However, the local police said that neither were any other policemen with him at the time of the arrest nor had he informed the local police station about his operation.

Moreover, he had no documentary evidence to prove his claim and being a head constable he had no power to investigate a narcotics case and he was in the company of Sham, a known peddler with several cases against him, the Odisha police reportedly argued.

However, senior officials from the Bengaluru Rural District police refuted the claims. "Anand was part of a eight-member team led by an assistant sub inspector who went to arrest the accused involved in a narcotics case registered in the Jigani police station. While the ASI and his team were waiting at a designated place, Anand accompanied by three others including Sham, a peddler, went ahead in search of the accused's location and recovered the drugs. They were returning to the police station along with the seizure when they were arrested by the local police," he said.

Mallikarjuna Baladandi, SP, Bengaluru Rural Police, admitted that it was a procedural lapse which led to the confusion. The team as per the Criminal Procedure Code should have informed the local police station but did not, which led to the confusion and the arrest.

"The police team had accompanied the peddler since he was aware of the accused's location and was taken along to help the team," he said.

A team of officials reached Odisha to clarify the misunderstanding on Saturday. The police will approach the Orissa High Court in Cuttack seeking quashing of the FIR filed against Anand, a senior official said.

However, the case has embarrassed the Karnataka police as this is not the first time that personnel who have gone to investigate cases in other States were arrested by their counterparts.

This July, city police inspector Shivaprakash, with three junior officers, were arrested by the Kalamassery police in Kerala for accepting a bribe from the accused in a cyber crime case.

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Cow vigilante Puneeth Kerehalli held for abusing social activist

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Cow vigilante Puneeth Kerehalli, a habitual offender, was arrested by the Sampigehalli police in connection with an atrocity case, on Friday.

Puneeth Kerehalli is named in over 14 criminal cases. Now, he has been booked under SC - ST Atrocities Prevention Act, 1989 and for criminal intimidation for his social media posts against social activist Bhairappa Harish Kumar. In his social media post, Kerehalli also verbally abused Harish Kumar and his family in a demeaning manner.

Earlier, the Bengaluru police had arrested Puneeth Kerehalli under the Goonda Act. He challenged the arrest in the High Court of Karnataka. The government dropped the charges against him. He was released recently.

After his release, he continued making provocative and abusive statements. Four FIRs were registered against him in different police stations across Karnataka.

PU student stabbed to death in Kolar

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The police conducted a probe and found a video where a group of boys tortured and stripped Karthik, before stabbing him on the school campus

A 17-year-old pre-university student was stabbed to death by a group of boys over a trivial row at Chamanahalli in Kolar on Friday. The deceased was identified as Karthik Singh.

According to the police, he had not gone to college on Friday and stayed at home complaining of an upset stomach, and later in the evening ventured out to meet his friends.

When he did not return home, his parents tried to reach him on his mobile but it was switched off. The parents started searching for him and they received information that he was found dead near a school campus on a residential lane, said the police.

Based on a complaint, the police began a probe and found a video where a group of boys tortured and stripped him, before stabbing him on the school campus.

The video taken by one of the accused was shared on some WhatsApp groups. The police suspect that the assailants had a fight with Karthik over a trivial row and later called him out of his house to take revenge and met him on the school campus. The police suspect the victim was trying to flee and dropped dead in the residential lane.

The police said they had leads on the accused, most of them minor boys, and were on the lookout for them.

MUSIC DANCE DRAMA

NAMASMARAN 2023 –5th Nov 8AM – Unchavrithi by Pudukkottai Sri S Narasimhan Bhagavathar; 9 to 10 AM Guru Puja to Brahmasri Vijayakrishna Bhagavathar & Brahmasri N Raman Bhagavathar 10AM – 1 PM Radha Kalyanam by H H Sri Sri Ramananda Saraswathi Swamigal; 2 PM – 3 PM Discourse by Sri Adimurthy; 3:30PM – 6 PM Thematic Presentation on Pudukkottai Shri Gopalakrishna Bhagavathaswamy by Cuddalore Sri Gopi; 6 PM – 9 PM Bhajan by Chennai Sri A Srikanth. Venue: Sri Surabharathi Sanskrit and Cultural Foundation, 9th C Main, HRBR Layout I Block, Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore – 560043 (located on the Service Road, adjacent to the BWSSB Water Tank) Ph. 9739084469/ 9845537677 fb.me/namasmaranpage

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CM holds damage-control meeting; asks Ministers not to comment on leadership issue

In the meeting attended by 15 Ministers, Siddaramaiah advised all to focus on drought relief work and preparations for LS polls

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a damage-control exercise, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Saturday held a breakfast meeting with his deputy D.K. Shivakumar and other Cabinet colleagues at his official residence 'Cauvery' and told Ministers not to issue public statements on the tenure of the Chief Minister or change of leadership. Multiple comments on the issue by himself and others in the Cabinet have embarrassed the government in the recent past.

In the meeting attended by 15 Ministers, including Home Minister G. Parameshwara and Industries Minister M.B. Patil, Mr. Siddaramaiah reportedly advised all to restrain themselves from issuing public statements which would show the government in poor light, despite implementation of four guarantees as promised in the party's election manifesto.

After Mr. Siddaramaiah's statement on Thursday that he would complete his full tenure as Chief Minister, many in the Cabinet on Friday had commented that the party high command alone would take a decision on the issue.

New facility: Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar inaugurating a meeting hall at Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's official residence 'Cauvery' in Bengaluru on Saturday.

This is the second meeting Mr. Siddaramaiah has held with a group of Ministers in the last few days. Mr. Shivakumar was not part of the earlier dinner meeting held at Mr. Parameshwara's residence.

'Focus on administration'
The Chief Minister reportedly told Ministers to focus on the administration, make efforts to implement drought relief and submit reports on work in the next 15 days. As per the directions of the Central leaders, Mr. Siddaramaiah discussed issues related to identifying the party's candidates for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

Mr. Shivakumar later said the Chief Minister had instructed all Ministers not to make public statements on the internal affairs of the party and the government. In the wake of next the Lok Sabha elections, the Ministers have been told to tour their respective districts to ensure effective implementation of the government's four guarantees.

Speaking later, the Deputy Chief Minister said the Ministers had been told to suggest names of three probable candidates for the general elections. A survey would be conducted to identify winnable candidate in each constituency, the KPCC chief added.

A couple of months ago, the KPCC gave responsibility to 28 Ministers to hold discussions with constituency-level leaders and submit reports on candidates in each of the 28 Lok Sabha constituencies in the State. As eight Ministers have not yet submitted reports, the Chief Minister told them to submit reports next week.

Mr. Shivakumar, who had declined to comment on Mr. Siddaramaiah's remark that he would be the head of the government for a full five-year term, inaugurated a meeting hall at the Chief Minister's residence.

Later, Mr. Siddaramaiah and Mr. Shivakumar held a separate meeting with Mr. Parameshwara and Minister K.N. Rajanna, who had made comments on Mr. Parameshwara's potential to be the Chief Minister. Mr. Parameshwara had declined to comment on the tenure of the Chief Minister and leadership change in the State.

One more meeting soon
The Chief Minister has proposed to hold another round of breakfast meeting with Ministers who did not attend Saturday's meeting. Ministers Satish Jarkiholi, Laxmi Hebbalkar, H.K. Patil, and R.B. Thimmapur did not attend the meeting.

Cases mount as CGIT has remained headless for 3 years

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

A file photo of employees of an defunct company protesting in Raichur. It is estimated that over 600 industrial disputes and around 800 provident fund cases are pending with the Central Government Industrial Tribunal in Bengaluru.

The Central Government Industrial Tribunal (CGIT), which hears individual and collective cases of industrial disputes, has remained headless in Karnataka for nearly three years now. This has resulted in the piling up of cases. It is estimated that over 600 industrial disputes and around 800 provident fund (PF) cases are pending with the tribunal.

Taking note of the vacancy of the presiding officer of the tribunal that has brought the activities to a standstill, the High Court of Karnataka recently warned the Central government that it would have to impose a cost of ₹10 lakh if there is no positive action on the appointment of the presiding officers to the CGIT in Bengaluru within the next three weeks.

Based on PIL plea
Based on a public interest litigation (PIL) petition filed by the Industrial Law Practitioners Forum, the order was issued by the High Court's Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B. Varale and Justice Krishna Dixit on October 25.

Among others, the CGIT hears collective disputes on wages, the charter of demand and bonus while individual cases include termination and dismissal. The post of the presiding officer has remained vacant since the previous presiding officer Justice Ratnakala demitted office on January 25, 2021. While there was an effort to appoint a presiding officer in August 2022, the selected candidate – a retired district judge – backed out after receiving the appointment order. In fact, the forum had written to the Union Ministry of Labour and Employment as early as December 2020 to initiate the process of appointment. The forum's request to extend services of Justice Ratnakala till a new presiding officer was appointed was also not met with.

"The cases in the CGIT has piled up and old cases have not been disposed of for nearly the last three years. This is especially true of the industrial disputes. The presiding officer of the Hyderabad tribunal, who is in charge of Bengaluru, has been able to dispose of some PF cases," forum secretary Murlidhara told *The Hindu*. He said: "Though cases can be filed now it is of no use. There has been no argument or recording of evidence. In fact, under provisions of law, industrial disputes have to be disposed of within six months from the date of reference."

He pointed out that while some PF matters can be appealed in the High Court, industrial disputes cannot be taken to the High Court. "Only employees of public sector undertaking and government institutions have the option of approaching the High Court. The rest of the cases have to go to the tribunal, which is now headless," said K.B. Narayanswamy, who argued before the High Court.

The CGIT in Bengaluru has been functioning since January 1987, and till 2017, it was dealing only with industrial disputes raised by workmen or unions. In 2017, the presiding officer was also designated as the appellate authority under the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. "This has increased the workload in the tribunal. That is why in the interest of speedy justice, the tribunal has to function continuously," Mr. Muralidhara added.

HC intervention not the first time

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

This is not the first time that the High Court has intervened in the matter of the appointment of the presiding officer to the CGIT, Bengaluru. Since 2001, the vacant period till a new appointment has been made has been about one year.

The Industrial Law Practitioners Forum has in the past filed PIL petitions in 2009, 2015, and 2018 seeking judicial intervention for the appointment of presiding officer.

Quota as debate topic: DK authorities withdraw circular

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

The Dakshina Kannada district administration was forced to withdraw a circular issued by the zilla panchayat which listed 'Is there a need to continue caste-based reservation in India?' as a topic for debate for schoolchildren in the Prathibha Karanji competition, following widespread condemnation.

A copy of the circular went viral on social media, drawing the ire of many, especially Dalit activists. "Isn't this topic aimed to prejudice children against reservation?" asked Dalit activist Ha.Ra. Mahesh.

Development economist V.P. Niranjanaradhya said, "This is questioning the Constitution which provided for caste-based reservation as a principle of affirmative action towards social justice."

Dalit activist Mavalli Shankar said that while caste-based reservation was a constitutional right, the topic given for debate to children will create negative connotations regarding reservation. "It will create anti-reservation sentiment among even schoolchildren. It is condemnable that such activities are taking place even when the Congress government is in power in the State. It seems that the government has no control over the officers. The government should take legal action against the Deputy Director of Public Instruction (DDPI) and officials of the Dakshina Kannada Zilla Panchayat immediately," he said.

'Not come to notice'
Dayanand Ramachandra Nayak, DDPI, Dakshina Kannada, said it had not come to his notice and he would direct the nodal officers and subject inspectors to immediately withdraw this topic, adopted for debate competition of Prathibha Karanji. However, activists have been demanding disciplinary action against the DDPI as they argue there was no way the circular could be issued without his knowledge.

The DSEL is conducting Prathibha Karanji, a talent-hunt competition, across the State.

HDK announces 'Raitha Santhwana Yatra'; continues to taunt DKS

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

JD(S) leaders H.D. Kumaraswamy, G.T. Deve Gowda, and others at a party meeting in Bengaluru on Saturday.

The former Chief Minister and Janata Dal (Secular) State president H.D. Kumaraswamy on Saturday announced that he would take up State-wide Raitha Santhwana Yatra "to instil courage and hope" among farmers who are suffering due to drought and power shortage, even as he continued to target the Congress, especially Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar.

Addressing pressperson after a meeting convened to set up the party's district-level teams to study the drought situation in the State, Mr. Kumaraswamy said he would take up the yatra along with core committee members, former Ministers, district presidents, and local leaders after the next legislature session.

The district-level teams have been asked to complete their drought study before Deepavali and submit a report to the party's head office by November 18, he said.

"The government has given a report to the Central government that crops on 65 lakh hectares of land have been destroyed due to lack of rain. However, it has failed to extend a helping hand to farmers," he alleged.

'TCM/DCM party'
Ridiculing the tussle for the Chief Minister's post in the Congress, Mr. Kumaraswamy said, "We do not know how many Chief Ministers will the party have in five years. We will have to rename this government as 'Temporary Chief Minister' (TCM) and 'Deputy Chief Minister' (DCM) government."

On a lighter note, he challenged Mr. Shivakumar to tell him if he wanted to become the Chief Minister tomorrow itself. "If you want to become the Chief Minister tomorrow itself, we will give you the support of 19 JD(S) MLAs," he said.

He alleged that the Congress was trying to poach JD(S) MLAs. "You have offered to make G.T. Deve Gowda a Minister and have also invited another MLA, Karemma Nayak, to join the Congress. When you do not have funds for your own legislators, you are tempting other party MLAs to join your party. Tell me if you want, I will myself give you the support of all our MLAs," he ridiculed.

By E_Mail/e-Despatch
E_Mail ID: serw_balasore@yahoo.in; Ph-No-06782/260318, Balia,Balasore

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BALASORE

"e" - Procurement Notice for Road Work

Identification No.- Online Tender- Road N.C.B. No. 52 for 2023-24

Letter No: - 5156 / Date : 27.10.2023

1. Name of the Work : Road Works under (SACI).
2. Total No. of Work : 4 Nos of Work
3. Estimated Cost : From Rs.591.25 Lakhs to 1977.45 Lakhs (Approximately)
4. Eligible Class of Contractor : As per annexure
5. Period of Completion : As per annexure
6. Other Details :-

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding From	To	Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O S.E., R.W.Circle, Balasore Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Balasore.	NCB No.- 52 of 2023-24	04.11.2023 at 11.00 A.M.	16.11.2023 Up to 5.00 P.M.	15.11.2023 Up to 5.00 P.M.	17.11.2023 at 11.00 A.M.	Will be intimated later

- Further details can be seen from the website : www.tendersodisha.gov.in

Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Balasore.

O-1439: OIPR-25105/11/0066/2324

POWER COMPANY OF KARNATAKA LIMITED
(Government of Karnataka undertaking) (CIN: U40101KA2007SGC043640)
5th Floor, KPTCL Building, Kaveri Bhavan, Bengaluru - 560009
Ph: 080-2221 0685 / 2229 4390, Email: addl.director2018@gmail.com

No. PCKL/DDP3/A2/A5/ST/2023-24/5061 DATE: 04.11.2023

TIME EXTENSION NOTIFICATION

Ref: Bid Notification No. PCKL/DDP3/A2/A5/ST/2023-24/4908 dated 27.10.2023.

Against the Notification **dated 27.10.2023** for procurement of **1000 MW RTC and 250 MW Peak Power (05:00 to 09:00 & 18:00 to 22:00 Hrs) for the period from 20.11.2023 to 31.05.2024** on Short Term Basis through DEEP Portal. **The last date and time for bid submission is extended from 06.11.2023 @ 17:00 Hrs to 16.11.2023 @ 17:00 Hrs**. The modification / addition clauses to the bid document is uploaded in the DEEP Portal.

It is requested to visit the DEEP e-portal. Link is available in **www.mstcecommerce.com** / **www.powermin.nic.in / www.pfcclindia.com.**

Sd/- Additional Director (projects)
PCKL.

GULBARGA ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly Owned Government of Karnataka)
Office of the Chief Engineer (Electy), O&M Zone, GESCOM, Kalaburagi
Vidyuth Bhavan, Tel.No.:08472-295301, cegulbarga@gmail.com

No:CEE/GLB/SEE (O)/AEE-2/2023-24/3962 Date: 02-11-2023

:: TENDER NOTIFICATION ::

1) Description of work : Work of construction of 2.2Kms of 33KV S/C line Tapping from Hirapur cross Shantinagar tapping line to 33/11kV Madarasanahalli MUSS in Kalaburagi Dist under on Total turnkey basis, 2) Amount put to tender (In Rs.) : **51,65,663/-**, 3) Contractor Qualifying requirement : As per IFB/ITB, 4) Bid documents available on or After : **06.11.2023** 5) Last Date & time for receipt of Bids through Electronic Mode only: **06.12.2023 Evening 5:00,** 6) Date & time of opening of Electronic Bid Sheets (Technical Bid): **08.12.2023 Morning 11:00**, 7) Date & time of opening of Electronic Bid Sheets (Price Bid): **11.12.2023 Morning 11:00**, 8) Additional Information can Be Discussed with : Superintending Engineer El., O&M Zone, GESCOM, Kalaburagi, Mob: 9448271604, 9) Web Site Address: **www.e-proc.Karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/Kalaburagi/428/KSMC&A/2023-24

Sd/- Chief Engineer (Electy), O&M Zone, GESCOM, Kalaburagi

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU
Notice to the Respondents No.2 & 5
Vide order dated: 31-10-2023
R.F.A. No. 1186/2012

Mrs. Lucy D' Silva & Others ... **APPELLANTS**

(By Sriyuths: Joshua H. Samuel, Maruthi S.H. & E. Cristopher advs. appellants by Cariappa & Co.)

-V/s-

Mr. Ali Khwaja and Others ...**RESPONDENTS**

To, (By Sriyuths: S. Kalyan Basavaraj adv. for R14, N. Jagadish adv. for R15 and R16)

To, **RESPONDENTS, R-2 M/S BANJARA DEVELOPERS AND CONSTRUCTIONS PVT. LTD.,** DARUS SALAM, QUEENS ROAD, BENGALURU-560052. REPRESENTED BY K.M.VIJAYAN, PRESENT ADDRESS: No.418, 1st MAIN, 1ST BLOCK, R.T.NAGAR, BENGALURU-560032.

R-5 MR. NAGESH, S/o LATE KRISHNAPPA R/AT HORAMAVU AGARA VILLAGE, HORAMAVU POST, BENGALURU-560043.

Appeal from the Judgment & Decree dated: 16-12-2011 passed in OS.No. 16795/2004 on the file of the XXVIII Addl. City Civil Judge, Mayohall, Bangalore.

Notice is hereby given to you to appear in this court either in person or through Counsel 'duly instructed or through some one authorized by law, to act for you in the above appeal on **17-11-2023** in case you intend to contest the appeal. If you fail to appear, the same will be dealt with, heard and decided in your absence.

Issued under my hand and the seal of this court, this the 03-11-2023.

By order of the court, Assistant Registrar, High court of Karnataka, Bangalore.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

70th Birthday Remembrance

Mrs. K. Chitra (Swaminathan)
Retd. Food Corporation of India
We fondly remember our mom's quiet confidence, loving presence and the cherished memories she left us with. Her enduring legacy continues through her five beloved grandchildren.
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DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

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Dr. SUMATI IYER, M.A., Ph.D.
18.07.1950 - 05.11.1993
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WITNESS A THRILLING BATTLE FOR THE TITLE

05 NOVEMBER 2023

FINAL

08:30 PM ONWARDS

FOR 3rd /4th PLACE

06:00 PM ONWARDS

VENUE: MARANG GOMKE JAIPAL SINGH MUNDA
ASTROTURF HOCKEY STADIUM, RANCHI

STADIUM ENTRY FOR SPECTATORS - 04:00 PM ONWARDS

Hemant Soren
Chief Minister, Jharkhand

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PR No-310681 IPRD(23-24) D

INBRIEF

Teen accused of sending death threats to RIL chief

A 19-year-old from Warangal in Telangana, identified as Ganesh Ramesh Vanaparthi, was picked up by the Mumbai police for allegedly sending emails to chairman and managing director of Reliance Industries Ltd. Mukesh Ambani, demanding ₹500 crore. Officials said he was sending death threats to the industrialist stating that he had 'the best shooters'. He was remanded in police custody till November 8.

One killed as Navy helicopter meets with accident in Kochi

A Chetak helicopter of the Indian Navy that was taxiing through the runway of the Naval airport at Willingdon Island near Kochi on Saturday noon suffered a technical snag and lost balance, resulting in the death of a member of the ground crew, it is learnt. The helicopter was operated from INS Garuda, the Naval air station next to the Southern Naval Command in Kochi. Yet another ground crew member and the two pilots on board escaped with injuries. The deceased has been identified as Yogendra Singh, Leading Air Mechanic.

Accused in Aluva child rape and murder case found guilty

Asafaq Alam, the accused in the rape and murder of a five-year-old girl at Aluva in Kerala, has been found guilty of the 16 offences alleged to have been committed by him. K. Soman, Special Judge, found the accused guilty of all the offences, including abduction, murder and rape of the minor, and convicted him on Saturday. The judge will pronounce the quantum of sentence at a later date.

'Shivakumar asked Foxconn to relocate from Telangana'

K.T. Rama Rao cites the letter as an example of possible prospects in store if BRS is not supported in Assembly poll; he alleges that the group has been asked to shift from Hyderabad to Bengaluru

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Working president of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) K.T. Rama Rao has made a startling revelation that Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka D.K. Shivakumar has addressed a letter to the Chairman of Foxconn Technology Group, which is setting up its unit at Kongara Kalan on the outskirts of Hyderabad, with a proposal to consider relocation of the unit to Bengaluru.

Speaking at a meeting with Telangana State Advocates body here on Saturday, he made a mention of

K.T. Rama Rao

Mr. Shivakumar's letter to the Foxconn citing it as an example of what would be in store for Telangana in case Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao was not supported. The governance of Telangana would take place from Delhi via Bengaluru, he said.

Mr. Rama Rao stated that Mr. Shivakumar had also mentioned in the letter that several multinational tech units in Hyderabad have expressed interest in relocating to Bengaluru as they were anticipating formation of a friendly government in Telangana soon.

A fake letter to tarnish my image: Shivakumar

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD/ BENGALURU

Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has termed the purported letter to Foxconn Chairman fake. He said an FIR had been lodged with the Cyber Crime police in Bengaluru in this regard. The fake letter was being circulated to tarnish his image, Mr. Shivakumar said. The police are trying to locate the IP address to check where the letter originated from.

IUML not to attend pro-Palestine rally

The Hindu Bureau
KOZHIKODE

The Kerala State committee of the Indian Union Muslim League (IUML) has once again declined the advances of the ruling CPI(M) by turning down its invitation to attend a rally to express solidarity with the Palestinian people in Kozhikode on November 11.

Emerging from a high-level meeting of the party here on Saturday, IUML general secretary P.K. Kunhalikutty thanked the CPI (M) for the invitation.

"But, being a constituent of the United Democratic Front (UDF), due to technical reasons we are unable to attend the event. Representatives of religious organisations will be present there. Let it be a grand programme," he said.

The IUML's decision followed speculation about the party's tilt towards the ruling Left Democratic Front.

BJP to give 9 seats to JSP in Telangana

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

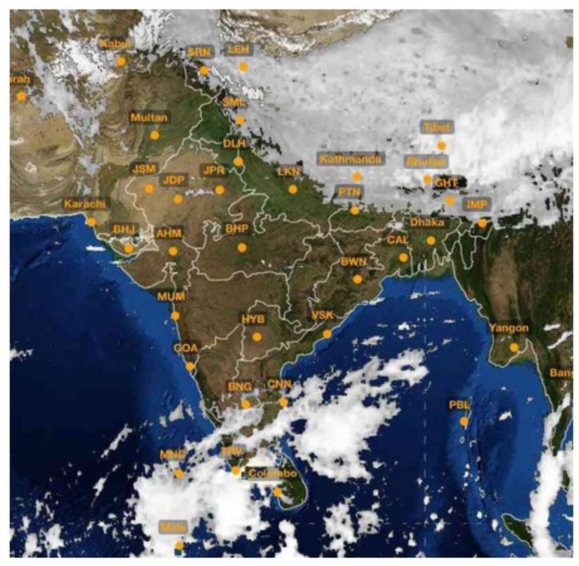
Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and actor Pawan Kalyan-led Jana Sena Party (JSP) are likely to jointly contest nine seats in Twin Cities and other parts of Telangana during the Assembly elections on November 30.

Highly placed BJP sources said the party has decided to give two seats – Kukatpally and Serilingampally – in Hyderabad to the JSP notwithstanding strong resistance from within the party. The BJP leaders, who were hopeful of performing well in these two seats are now up in arms against the proposal.

It is understood that the BJP is planning to give Tandur (Vikarabad district), Nagarkurnool, Kodada (Suryapet district), Palair, Madhira, Kothagudem and Aswaraopet (all old Khammam district) seats to the Jana Sena Party.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 17.00 HRS)

Forecast for Sunday: Heavy to very heavy rainfall, thunderstorm with lightning and gusty winds very likely at isolated places over Kerala and Mahe. Heavy rainfall very likely at isolated places over Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Coastal Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal.

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	32.2	22.4	Kozhikode	49.0	31.2	24.5
Ahmedabad	—	35.3	20.2	Kurnool	—	35.5	24.5
Aizawl	—	29.5	15.5	Lucknow	—	29.9	18.4
Allahabad	—	32.8	18.1	Madurai	—	32.2	23.1
Bengaluru	2.0	29.0	20.8	Mangaluru	12.0	29.0	23.6
Bhopal	—	33.5	16.5	Mumbai	—	35.8	25.0
Bhubaneswar	12.0	33.2	23.8	Mysuru	1.0	31.8	24.2
Chandigarh	—	30.4	16.0	New Delhi	—	29.1	16.6
Chennai	0.1	31.3	24.6	Patna	—	32.1	20.4
Coimbatore	0.7	31.7	23.2	Port Blair	7.0	31.3	25.2
Dehradun	—	29.2	13.2	Puducherry	—	30.0	24.6
Gangtok	—	23.6	14.4	Pune	—	34.3	20.5
Goa	—	35.5	25.2	Raipur	2.5	31.5	21.6
Guwahati	—	31.6	19.4	Ranchi	—	28.6	19.2
Hubballi	—	32.0	22.0	Shillong	—	21.5	11.5
Hyderabad	—	30.7	21.0	Shimla	—	19.5	9.6
Imphal	—	28.2	14.3	Srinagar	—	19.5	3.4
Jaipur	—	32.0	20.4	Thiruvananthapuram	6.0	29.0	24.2
Kochi	23.0	29.0	24.8	Tiruchi	4.0	30.1	23.4
Kohima	—	22.0	12.0	Vijayawada	—	32.4	25.4
Kolkata	0.4	31.6	23.7	Visakhapatnam	31.0	30.0	24.6

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	6	3	.19	242	218	
Bengaluru	.18	.38	.53	—	79	
Chennai	5	117	.38	11	24	
Delhi	—	—	.98	—	488	
Hyderabad	4	.25	.50	83	120	
Kolkata	.18	.37	.23	120	88	
Lucknow	8	.66	.87	264	251	
Mumbai	.12	.26	.76	253	174	
Pune	122	190	112	237	135	
Visakhapatnam	4	.18	.22	16	29	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 490 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Ariyalur, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 12

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Administrative Training Institute,
Lalitha Mahal Road, Mysore - 570011
No: ATI/6/TND/TEND/2023-JD-ATI Dated:03.11.2023

TENDER PUBLICATION

Administrative Training Institute, Mysore and State Institute of Urban Development(Functioning in ATI Campus), Mysore is inviting tender through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal for providing Horticulture Maintenance Service for a period of One year and Subject to Extension for a period of 02 years (Extension for one year at a time) based on performance. Registered/eligible firms/ organizations can submit their bids through the Karnataka Public Procurement portal Website:https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. Details of the tender are as follows:

Sl. No.	Details of the Service	Approximate Amount	E.M.D
1	Tender through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal for providing Horticulture Maintenance Service for Administrative Training Institute and State Institute of Urban Development (Functioning in ATI Campus), Mysore for a period of one year and Subject to Extension for a period of 02 years (Extension for one year at a time) based on Performance.	Rs.95,49,990/-	Rs.1,91,000/-

The tender documents can be viewed on the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal from 04.11.2023 at 11.30AM. The last date for the submission of bid is 04.12.2023 at 5.30 (Evening). The Tender bids will be opened on 06.12.2023 at 11.30 in the Morning. Further information can be obtained from the above mentioned address.

Sd/- Tender Inviting Authority, Administrative Training Institute, Mysore.
DIPR/DDMYS/KSMCA/602/2023-24

Government of Karnataka
Office of the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Division Ballari
Email: ee_pwdbellary@yahoo.com Telephone No: 08392 -266123
No: EE/PWD/BD/TS-3/2023-24/3102 Dated : 31-10-2023

KPPP Brief Tender Notification for preparation of detailed project reports (DPR's) for the proposed works to be takenup under CEPMIZ (Two Cover Sysytem)

The Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Division, Ballari is inviting tenders for preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPR's) for the Proposed improvements of State Highway, Major District Road and Other District Roads works to be taken up under CEPMIZ as per Standard Bidding Document (KC-4) and KPWD Norms. Two cover tender procedure as per KTPP Act shall be followed. The tender documents can be downloaded through the web-site https:kppp.karnataka.gov.in For any additional information the tenderers may contact the office of the undersigned during office working hours.

Sl No	Details of Works	Road length in Kms	Amount of Bridge Estimate (Rs. in Lakhs)
1)	Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPRs) for Construction of Cement Concrete Road from Narayanapura to Rajapura cross SH-131 and 5 Nos of Bridges in Sandur Taluk from Km 0.00 to 5.30 (Including Land Acquisition) Ballari District under 8443-CEPMIZ Projects for the year 2023-24 (PWD/2023-24/SE0075)	5.30	-
2)	Re-construction of RCC Bridge across HLC on NH 63 near Allipur village in Ballari Taluk Ballari District under 8443-CEPMIZ Projects for the year 2023-24 (PWD/2023-24/SE0010/CALL-3)	0.022	990.00

Tender Process Details : 1)Tender Dcoument can be downloaded in KPP Portal from 02.11.2023 to 10.11.2023 upto 16.00 Hours. 2)Pre bid meeting on 04.11.2023 at 11.30 Hours (o/o Executive Engineer Office, PWD Division Ballari). 3)Last date & Time for Receipt of Tenders 10.11.2023 upto 16.00 Hours. 4)Date & Time for opening of Technical bid 13.11.2023 at 10.30 Hours. 5)Date & Time of Opening of Financial Proposal: will be informed separately to those consultants whose technical proposal is accepted. 6)Corrigendums, Addendums and Modifications in Notification if any will be published in KP-procurement Portal only.

Terms of Reference may be downloaded in KP-Procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka (https:kppp.karnataka.gov.in) from 02.11.2023.

Registered Consultancy firms in KP-Procurement are eligible to participate in any number of tender, But on consultancy firm is eligible to obtain Tender.

Any information can be obtained from o/o Executive Engineer Office, PWD Division Ballari during office hours on all working days and also through https:kppp.karnataka.gov.in KP-Procurement Portal Helpdesk Telephone No. 080-25501216 & 080-25501217.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division, Ballari.
DIPR/Ballari/377/KSMCA/2023-24

KARNATAKA STATE AKKAMAHADEVI WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY, VIJAYAPUR
No:KSAMUV/ACAD/PGAN/2023-24/2138 Date: 02.11.2023

ADMISSION NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited from Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women University Vijayapura from the eligible female candidates for the admission to the P.G, P.G Diploma, B.P.Ed, Certificate, Value Added Certificate/Diploma/Advance Diploma Programmes for the Academic year 2023-24. The eligible female candidates may apply through online UUCMS portal using the link www.uucms.karnataka.gov.in provided in University website www.kswu.ac.in by **paying application fee Rs.250/- for GM and Other Categories and Rs.125/- for SC/ST/Cat-I from 04.11.2023 to 25.11.2023.** for more information and update visit Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women University Website www.kswu.ac.in or contact respective P.G. Departments and P.G. Course offered colleges of Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women University Vijayapura. **Offline Application will not be entertained.**

Sd/- Registrar,
Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women's University, Vijayapura
ವಾಸಾಸಂ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/259/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2023–24

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No: SEE/Tr(W&M)C/MRB/EE(O)/AEE-1/T-64/23-24/5015-20 Date: 03.11.2023

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION

(e-PROCUREMENT MODE ONLY)

KPTCL invites Tenders for the following works **including supply of equipment's / materials, erection(including civil works), testing & Commissioning on PTK basis (major materials such as Power Transformer, 11kV Switchgear will be supplied by KPTCL).**

(1) E-procurement Tender No:*KPTCL/2023-24/SS/Work_Indent288.* Bid Enquiry No.: SEE/WMC/MRB/AEE-1/2023-24/16 Dt. 03.11.2023_Call-5 for "Providing additional 1x10MVA, 110/11kV Transformer at **110/11kV Bennur Sub-station** in Karatagi Taluk, Koppal District".

(2) E-procurement Tender No: KPTCL/2023-24/SS/Work_Indent233, Bid Enquiry No: SEE/WMC/MRB/AEE-1/2023-24/17 Dt. 03.11.2023_Call-5 for "Providing additional 1x10 MVA,110/11 kV Transformer at **110/11kV Yeradona** sub-station in Karatagi Taluk, Koppal District".

(3) E-procurement Tender No: KPTCL/2023-24/SS/Work_Indent241, Bid Enquiry No: SEE/WMC/MRB/AEE-1/2023-24/19 Dt. 03.11.2023 for "Providing additional 1x10 MVA,110/11 kV Transformer at **110/11kV Sub-station Metri-Devalapura** in Hosapete Taluk, Ballari District".

(4) E-procurement Tender No: KPTCL/2023-24/SS/Work_Indent240, Bid Enquiry No: SEE/WMC/MRB/AEE-1/2023-24/18 Dt. 03.11.2023_Call-4 for "Enhancement of 2x12.5MVA, 66/11 KV Power Transformer by 2x20MVA and Providing 5no's additional PCVCB switchgear at **66/11KV MUSS UP Halli** in H.B.Halli Taluk, Vijayanagara District pertaining to TL&SS Division Munirabad".

Tenders will be received through E-Procurement mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in/** on hyperlink **"E-ProcurementKPTCL" or directly logging on to website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in /**on or after **Dtd: 07.11.2023 at 11:00Hrs** details can be obtained from the office of the under signed.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Ele., Tr. (W&M) Circle,
KPTCL, Munirabad-583233. Ph: 08539-270094

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Head Office, N.R. Square, Bangalore - 560 002.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

SAHAYA 2.0 APPLICATION THE GRIEVANCES REDRESSAL SYSTEM OF BBMP

Citizens of Bengaluru can register any grievances related to the BBMP like "Potholes", "Footpaths", "Street Lights", "Garbage Disposal", "Building Permit Approval" etc. in the Sahaaya 2.0 software, which is available in play store with the name of "Namma Bengaluru (Sahaaya 2.0)".

The citizens can download the app 'Namma Bengaluru' through Play Store

Citizens can also lodge their grievances through the Web Portal in **https://bbmp.gov.in**

Citizens can also lodge their grievances through TollFree No **1533**

Sd/-
Chief Commissioner
Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

Government of Karnataka
Department of Collegiate and Technical Education
NO. 1, Unnatha Shikshana Soudha, Sheshadri Road, Bangalore – 560 001.
Phone: 080 29701510, email: dce.tender2017@gmail.com
No.: DCE/ITS/PUR/15/2023-INFO (Computer No.1174513) **Date: 04.11.2023**

E-Tender Notification

The Commissioner for Collegiate and Technical Education, Bangalore hereby invites bids in Two-Cover system through e-Procurement portal from eligible bidders for the following Tender. The Tender Documents with detailed terms and conditions may be obtained from the website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.**

Tender Schedules are as below

Sl. No.	Tender Name & Number	Date of Floating Tender on e- Procurement Portal	Date and Time of pre-bid meeting	Last date and Time for bidding through eprocurement portal
1.	**Tender No: DCE/2023-24/SE0001/Call-2** "Hiring of Passenger Car with Drivers for the Department of Collegiate and Technical Education, Bangalore"	04/11/2023	06/11/2023 11.00 AM	20/11/2023 5.00 PM

Sd/-
Director of Collegiate Education, Bangalore, Karnataka
DIPR/CP/1990/Zen/2022-23

From Page One

Nepal earthquake claims 157 lives

While 105 people were killed in Jajarkot, 52 died in Rukum West, Home Ministry officials said, adding that 166 people were injured in Jajarkot, Rukum West, Dailekh, and Jumla districts. Deputy Mayor Sarita Singh of Nalgadh Municipality in Jajarkot was among those killed in the quake, officials said. The death toll is expected to rise, they said. The Nepal government has announced ₹50 million each for Jajarkot and Rukum districts as immediate relief.

The Home Ministry decided to allocate ₹5.5 million to the disaster relief funds.

India offers help

In a post on X (formerly Twitter), PM Narendra Modi said he was deeply saddened by the loss of lives and damage due to the earthquake in Nepal. "India stands in solidarity with the people of Nepal and is ready to extend all possible assistance," he said.

The U.S. embassy in Kathmandu said the United States stands ready to assist Nepal as it "recovers from this terrible earthquake".

Around 159 aftershocks have been recorded following last night's earthquake, including a 4.2 magnitude tremor at Jajarkot on Saturday, the National Earthquake Monitoring and Research Centre reported. Prime Minister Pushpakamal Dahal 'Prachanda' on Saturday toured the quake-hit region with a medical team Saturday morning.

Free ration scheme to be extended: PM Modi

Referring to the poor as the "biggest caste [group] in my country", Mr. Modi alleged that some political parties were dissolving the poison of casteism in the air, an oblique reference to demands for a caste census made by the Congress and its allies in recent times.

On the sidelines of an event to release the BJP's poll manifesto for Chhattisgarh in Raipur on Friday, Union Home Minister Amit Shah had reportedly said that while the BJP had never opposed a caste census, decisions had to be taken after careful thought, adding that the party refrained from doing politics over the issue.

'Congress abusing OBCs'

At the Durg rally, Mr. Modi claimed that the Congress was abusing him because he hailed from the other backward classes (OBCs), and was also abusing the entire OBC community because of him.

Without naming former Congress president Rahul Gandhi, Mr. Modi recalled the defamation case in which Mr. Gandhi had been convicted for making a remark about the 'Modi' surname during a political rally in 2019. Earlier this year, the Supreme Court stayed the conviction of the Wayanad MP in the case.

Three days before polls, Maoists kill BJP worker

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

Alleged Maoists stabbed to death a Bharatiya Janata Party office bearer in Narayanpur on Saturday, three days before the scheduled date for the first phase of polling in the Assembly election-bound State.

Ratan Dubey, poll coordinator for BJP as well as vice president of its Narayanpur district unit, is the sixth member of the party to be murdered by alleged Maoists since the beginning of the year. According to the police, around 5.30 p.m. on Saturday, Dubey was attacked by suspected members of the Communist Party of India (Maoists) while he was campaigning for the party.

Senior BJP leader and former Chief Minister Raman Singh said that the crimes were committed with an intention to influence the outcome of the Assembly polls. State BJP president Arun Sao accused the ruling Congress of nurturing Naxalism.

In back-to-back issue, electoral bond sales resume tomorrow

The sales come soon after the Supreme Court's decision to reserve its verdict on the scheme; all authorised SBI branches allowed to sell them

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

With five States going to the polls, the Union Finance Ministry on Saturday announced sales of a fresh tranche of electoral bonds from November 6 to 20, the second window for the sales within a month.

With the latest notification, electoral bonds are effectively likely to be on sale for 75 days between October 2023 and May 2024, when the Lok Sabha election is expected.

'Cleanse the system'

Coming soon after the Supreme Court's decision to reserve its verdict on the electoral bond scheme, the upcoming sale of these bonds at all authorised branches of the State Bank of India stems from amendments made to the scheme by the Centre in November 2022.

Individuals can buy electoral bonds on their own or along with others. FILE PHOTO

The upcoming 29th tranche of electoral bond sales since the scheme's launch in January 2018 to "cleanse the system of political funding" in the country, follows a 10-day window for selling these bonds that closed on October 13.

The original scheme envisaged sales of electoral bonds for 10 days each in January, April, July and October every year, and a 30-day period during the year of the Lok Sabha polls.

Validity of bonds

Last year, the government expanded its ambit to grant itself the power to announce an extra fortnight of electoral bond sales in years where the States and the Union Territories with legislatures have elections. That power was first exercised ahead of the Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh Assembly elections late last year.

Individuals can buy electoral bonds on their own or along with others, and remit them to registered political parties with at least 1% vote share in the Lok Sabha or Assembly elections.

The bonds are valid for 15 calendar days from the date of issuance.

BJP accuses Baghel of receiving *hawala* money for campaign

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Smriti Iran

The BJP launched a sharp attack on Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Saturday, accusing him of having received *hawala* money from illegal betting operators as kickback to fund the Congress campaign for the Assembly election.

Union Minister Smriti Irani made these allegations at a press conference at the BJP headquarters here, alleging that "never before in our electoral history had people seen such evidence of such things".

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) is probing allegations against the Chief Minister in connection with the Mahadev betting app scam. "He has played the game of betting while being in power," Ms. Irani said, in a play on the Hindi words for "power" and "betting".

Mr. Baghel has, in turn, accused the BJP of using Central investigation agencies to target him ahead of polling on November 7 and 17. Ms. Irani responded by saying that the ED's probe was based on the details of investigations by the police in Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh, and asked if Mr. Baghel was putting his own government in the dock.

Citing the probe, she said that more than ₹64 crore worth of protection money was given to authorities by illegal betting operators.

On Friday, the ED said a forensic analysis and a statement made by a "cash courier" have led to "startling allegations" that the promoters of the Mahadev betting app paid about ₹508 crore to the Chhattisgarh CM.

EC must ensure a level playing field: Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Saturday urged the Election Commission (EC) to intervene to ensure a level playing field in Chhattisgarh as the Enforcement Directorate on Friday said it was probing allegations that Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel had received money from the promoters of the Mahadev betting app.

Congress leaders K.C. Venugopal, Jairam Ramesh, and Abhishek Singhvi said at a press conference that the BJP was misusing the Central agencies during the elections in Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan. They said such steps revealed that the BJP was staring at a defeat in both States. The leaders also did not rule out the possibility of approaching the EC over the "blatant misuse of the Central agencies" when the Model Code of Conduct is in force.

Mr. Venugopal said the ED and the Income Tax Department were the main weapons of the BJP during elections. "We saw in Karnataka that during the election itself, they searched more than 100 Congress candidates," he said. He added that the public mood in Mizoram, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Telangana was in favour of the Congress and the party would form the government in these States. "In both Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan, our governments are popular, and the schemes are reaching the common people of the States... But they [the BJP] have only one target, which is to damage the image and reputation of the Chief Ministers of Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan just ahead of elections," he said.

Bhupesh Baghel

Mr. Ramesh said it was vendetta politics and the steps were being taken as the BJP was clearly losing in both States.

Mr. Singhvi said it was the Chhattisgarh government that initiated action against the Mahadev app. "Chhattisgarh police have registered more than 70 cases against the Mahadev app, arrested more than 450 persons, seized 191 laptops, 865 mobile devices, more than ₹1.5 crore worth of assets, more than ₹41 lakh in cash, and frozen bank accounts with estimated value of ₹ 16 crore," he said, adding that due to jurisdictional limitations, the State government had approached the Centre and its agencies to arrest Ravi Uppal and Saurabh Chandrakar, who are absconding.

SC trains its guns on frivolous PIL petitions

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

A heavy dose of "frivolous" public interest litigation (PIL) petitions in the Supreme Court is prompting judges to take to task petitioners and the lawyers who put their signature on them, for wasting judicial time.

The public is paying for precious judicial time, Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud observed recently.

The Chief Justice has largely been successful in dissuading pesky PIL petitions by asking their architects to pay advance cost, which would be forfeited if the case is summarily dismissed for lack of merit. A few days ago, the Chief Justice's Bench told an insistent PIL litigant to deposit ₹5 lakh as advance cost. The petitioner beat a hasty retreat.

Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, on October 30, decided to investigate how advocates-on-record, whose vetting and signatures are required for petitions to be filed in the top court, have become a "mere signing/forwarding authority".

"Time has come when the court should impose exemplary costs in such frivolous PILs," the Chief Justice said.

Overall air quality in Delhi-NCR improving, CAQM report tells SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Heavy lungs: Vehicles ply amid thick smog as the overall air quality in the national capital remains in the 'severe' category. ANI

The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) has given a cheery report to the Supreme Court of targets for a substantial reduction in instances of paddy stubble burning for Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh in 2023 even as the national capital is smothered in acrid vapour.

The State Action Plan for Punjab for the year is "zero stubble burning" in six districts of Hoshiarpur, Malerkotla, Pathankot, Rup Nagar, SAS Nagar and SBS Nagar. The State is targeting a 50% reduction in the remaining 17 districts. The total fire counts as of October is 24,202. Last year saw 49,922 fires in the State. In neighbouring Haryana and Uttar Pradesh (National Capital Region), the States had promised "near elimination of paddy stubble burning" from 3,661 and 198 fire counts in 2022.

In the report filed through Additional Solicitor-General Aishwarya Bhati, the CAQM maintained that the "overall air quality in Delhi-NCR has witnessed an improving trend since the inception of the Commission". "The key parameters for daily average air quality for Delhi for the period between January and September 2023 have been the best in 2023 as compared to the corresponding periods, from 2018 to 2022 (barring the periods of very low anthropogenic, industrial and commercial activities during the COVID-affected year 2020, owing to complete lockdowns)," the report said.

Tackling crop residue

The report also said the Centre has already disbursed ₹3,333.17 crore under the Crop Residue Management (CRM) scheme to tackle crop stubble. Available data indicate that around 1.17 lakh CRM machines are available in Punjab, 80,071 in Haryana and 7,986 in NCR areas of Uttar Pradesh. This is more than the 90,422, 72,777 and 8,482 machines available in 2022.

However, the early appearance and intensity of the smog cover belie figures in the report, which show that more CRM machines are available this year than the last.

Under the CRM scheme, 50% financial assistance is given to farmers and 80% aid for cooperative societies, farmer producer organisations and panchayats for procuring CRM machinery to rent to needy farmers.

In fact, the report points out that frequent reviews and daily monitoring of fire counts, as per a standard protocol developed by the ISRO for the CAQM, saw a serious dip in paddy stubble burning between September 15 and October 24 during 2022 and 2023. The report said the CAQM has advised State governments to establish an ecosystem and robust supply chain mechanism to boost *ex-situ* utilisation of paddy straw in boilers and furnaces of industrial units.

Video of tribal man who was found dead on July 2 emerges in Manipur

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

A video of a 31-year-old tribal man, which was made shortly before he was beheaded and set ablaze on the boundary of Churachandpur and Bishnupur districts of Manipur on July 2, emerged on social media on Saturday. A police official said they were analysing the video and that no arrests had been made in the case so far.

In the video clip, the man, identified as David Tuolor, is seen being slapped and asked about his ethnic identity. A group of men wearing black clothes and camouflage trousers asks if he belongs to the Hmar community. The faces of the men are not visible.

When Tuolor replies that he grew up among the Kom community, he is slapped and asked again if he is a Hmar, to which he replies in the affirmative.

The same day Tuolor was found murdered in his village, Chinglangmei, in Churachandpur. The severed head was put on display on a bamboo fence and the body burnt.

According to a complaint filed on August 1 by his father, Lalkhumlien, with the National Human Rights Commission, a group of men, suspected to be members of the vigilante groups Aarambai Tenggol and Meitei Leepun, led by the police reached Chinglangmei and started looking for Kuki-Zomi-Hmar people. Tuolor, who was home, was caught by the group after which he was tortured to death, the complaint read.

Three Meitei men were also killed on the same day, *The Hindu* had reported. Heisnam Balram Singh, Superintendent of Police, Bishnupur, had said that on July 2, bunkers set up by the villagers near Khujuma Tabi, a Meitei village, were attacked by armed miscreants. He said following the incident, a large number of people stormed the nearby Kuki-Zo villages in Churachandpur district.

The Indigenous Tribal Leaders Forum had said then that the Kuki-Zo villages were attacked first.

ISRO chief withdraws memoir after controversy

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

S. Somanath, Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), said on Saturday that he was withdrawing the publication of his Malayalam memoir, *Nilavu Kudicha Simhangal* (loosely translated as 'The lions that drank the moonlight').

The decision followed a report in the *Malayala Manorama* on Saturday that quoted excerpts from the book suggesting that K. Sivan, former ISRO Chairman and Mr. Somanath's immediate predecessor, may have hindered key promotions that Mr. Somanath thought were due.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Mr. Somanath said: "There has been some misinterpretation. At no point have I said that Dr. Sivan tried to prevent me from becoming the Chairman. All I said was that being made a member of the Space Commission is generally seen as a stepping stone to [ISRO's chairmanship]. However, a director from another [ISRO centre] was placed, so naturally that trimmed my chances [at chairmanship]."

"Secondly the book isn't officially released. My publisher may have released a few copies... but after all this controversy, I have decided to withhold publication," he said. A spokesperson for Lipi Books, the Kozhikode-based publisher, confirmed to *The Hindu* that it was withdrawing the publication.

S. Somanath

Mr. Somanath said the purpose of writing the book was to write a motivational story, on the personal challenges he faced in his journey of becoming a space technologist and in executing the Chandrayaan missions. "It was not to create controversy."

On Chandrayaan-2

Excerpts from the book, which *The Hindu* has viewed, do bring out Mr. Somanath's discomfort with the "Chairman's [Dr. Sivan's]" decision not to be explicit about the reasons for the failure of the Chandrayaan-2 mission [which was expected to land a rover]. The issue was a software glitch but was publicly communicated as an "inability to communicate with the lander".

Chandrayaan-2 mission was originally scheduled for July 15, 2019, with then President Ramnath Kovind in attendance. The launch was called off an hour ahead, due to a "technical snag".

"That a software glitch was at fault was known only subsequently... I believe that whatever success or failure happens should be transparently communicated. I'm not criticising Dr. Sivan though," said Mr. Somanath.

He said that he was in "constant touch" with Dr. Sivan as the latter continued to be an adviser to the ISRO and gave inputs for future missions.

Vasundhara files poll papers from Jhalrapatan

Senior BJP leader and former Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje on Saturday ruled out speculation about her retirement from politics, and said she was looking forward to the next five years of working. Ms. Raje was speaking after filing her nomination papers from the Jhalrapatan constituency, from where she has been elected four times since 2003.

Ms. Raje had on Friday said during an election campaign that she felt she could retire, as her son Dushyant Singh had learnt the ropes and was taking good care of his constituency. She said after filing the papers that she had made the remarks in the context of praising her son and it was a matter "between the family".

"I have just filed my nomination. Jhalawar is my family… Don't entertain any thoughts of my retirement anytime soon," Ms. Raje said.

BJP leader Vasundhara Raje filing nomination from the Jhalrapatan constituency.

BJP fighting polls through ED, says Gehlot

Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Saturday accused the BJP of fighting the State Assembly election through the Enforcement Directorate (ED), which was conducting raids on the premises of Congress leaders and issuing summons to their relatives.

"If the BJP leaders have some courage, let them come forward and debate on political issues," Mr. Gehlot said. Mr. Gehlot was addressing the "Congress guarantee dialogues" coinciding with the filing of nominations by the Congress candidates for the Assembly election in Kishangarh, Nathdwara and Mandal. He said the BJP was nowhere in picture in Rajasthan and it seemed to be a fight "between the Congress and the ED". He said the ED officials were after the State Congress chief Govind Singh Dotasra and had summoned his sons after searching his houses.

> The previous BJP govt. gave only ₹500 crore to cow shelters in its five years, whereas we gave a grant of ₹3,000 crore to cow shelters
>
> **ASHOK GEHLOT**
> Rajasthan Chief Minister

Shah says Cong. disrespected Ambedkar

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said the Congress follows "4Cs, namely corruption, commission, communalism and criminalisation" and that it disrespected Babasaheb Ambedkar. At a rally in poll-bound Madhya Pradesh, he alleged that the party will end welfare schemes if it was voted to power. PTI

> It is an opportunity for people of Mizoram to say that this is the India we want to preserve... think about larger meaning of the election
>
> **SHASHI THAROOR**
> Congress MP

Rahul questions Modi's take on caste politics

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's take on caste politics, and asked why Mr. Modi asserted his own Other Backward Classes (OBC) identity repeatedly if by his own admission "poverty was the biggest caste".

Addressing two meetings in Chhattisgarh, Mr. Gandhi accused the BJP of treating tribal people as animals, as he raised the '*adivasi*' versus '*vanvasi*' name issue again.

"Today, in his speech, he [Mr. Modi] said there was only one caste in the country and that was India's poor. That means in his new speech he is saying that in this country, there are no Dalits, no *adivasi*, no backward [communities] and we all know that there are tribals in the country, there are tribal languages, there is tribal culture, there is tribal history, there are Dalits. Dalits are insulted, they are troubled on a daily basis, the backward [communities] are not getting their due rights..,"he said.

"They want to show tribal people where their place should be, hence these people have coined the word *vanvasi* for you. Tribal culture, traditions and customs are being attacked with the word," he said.

FOR FULL COVERAGE OF ASSEMBLY POLLS
Please scan the QR code or visit
https://newsth.live/elections

In Madhya Pradesh, Congress and BJP pin their hopes on women voters

With women coming out in larger numbers to vote in the previous elections and exercising their franchise independently, the two leading players in the State are competing with each other to win them over with a slew of promises such as income support schemes and subsidy for gas cylinders

IN FOCUS

Mehul Malpani
Nistula Hebbar
BHOPAL/ SHIVPURI

There is one group that poll managers of both the BJP and the Congress in Madhya Pradesh have pinned their hopes on – the 2.72 crore women voters in the State. Both parties have cottoned on to the unmistakeable electoral trend in India of women not just coming out in larger numbers to vote but also increasingly becoming a distinct voice with a vote preference that may or may not be the same as that of the men in their households.

The Congress and the BJP both announced income support schemes for women a few months ago, in big rallies signalling their intent, an event that Congress strategists now feel was akin to jumping the gun. "We should have waited to announce it later in the campaign as the Shivraj Singh Chouhan government was quick to take on the idea and implement it before the Model Code of Conduct could kick in," said a senior Congress leader involved in the party's campaign in the State.

Nevertheless, the Congress promises to provide ₹1,500 a month in income support for women and gas cylinders for ₹500 each.

Raising the bar

The BJP government, meanwhile, announced the Ladli Behena scheme and has in the past few months, raised the support provided from ₹1,000 a month to ₹1,250 with a promise to hike it to ₹3,000 gradually.

"Till date, 1.32-crore beneficiaries of the scheme have been given ₹5,500 in instalments," a BJP leader said. Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, referred to as *Mama* (maternal uncle), has been emphasising this aspect in his campaign, almost to the exclusion of all else and adding the fear that the Congress may discontinue the scheme once in power.

But is the scheme working? Kamaljeet Kaur from Banskheri village of Shivpuri's Kolaras believes that Mr. Chouhan will return as the Chief Minister.

"We have been very happy with *Mama*'s rule even before we started getting money (under the Ladli Behna Yojana). We have good water and power supply in our village and you can see the roads. Ladli Behna is an additional factor," she tells *The Hindu*.

In Guna's Bamori, Kavita Dhakar, who runs a Kirana shop, says that though the Congress has also promised ₹1,500 under the Nari Samman Yojana, it is difficult to trust the party.

More benefits

"The BJP has also said they will increase the money; so will support those who are already doing things for us. And it's not just money, the police has also started listening to women and there are other facilities too," she says.

Her sister-in-law Ruby Dhakar, however, interrupts, saying, "But, there is no proper road in our village. Roads in nearby villages have been made but we are still waiting."

Ms. Ruby also says that she did not get the gas cylinder for ₹500 as promised by the current BJP government recently. "When I went to the agency, they told me that the process was closed now."

In Bhopal, Sunita Kumari says that while she has availed herself of the Ladli Behena scheme, she also filled out the form distributed by the Congress after their own income support scheme was announced. "I don't think the scheme will be discontinued, though I don't know if the money will arrive as promptly as it does now," she said.

"Currently, everyone is silent, it will only be known on polling day, which way women have voted," she said.

Increasing turnout

The table lists the number of men and women electors and voter turnout for the past seven Assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh. Women voter turnout increased from 46.8% in 1990 to 74% in the 2018 Assembly election

Election year	Electors (in crore)		Voter turnout (in %)	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
2023	2.88	2.72	-	-
2018	2.64	2.41	75.8	74.0
2013	2.46	2.21	73.9	70.1
2008	1.91	1.71	72.3	65.9
2003	1.98	1.81	71.9	62.1
1998	2.32	2.16	66.4	53.5
1993	2.07	1.95	68.2	52.3
1990	1.94	1.82	61.2	46.8

Poll play: Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan during his election campaign in Seoni, Narmadapuram. PTI

Facing truculence over conversion, 'Vishwasis' in Bastar ache for peace

Abhinay Lakshman
NARAYANPUR

For a small group of Madia-Gond tribespeople in a densely forested corner of the Bastar region in Chhattisgarh, election promises of higher minimum support prices and crop procurement from the ruling Congress and the BJP mean little. For this community of Vishwasis, even accessing their fields is a challenge, and they say their first priority is "peace".

The community refuses to accept the tag of "Christian convert", preferring to be called "believers" or Vishwasis.

The 15 Vishwasi families from Remawand village of Narayanpur, who were driven out of their homes by a series of communal attacks last December, started returning to their ancestral lands in January, just in time for paddy harvesting. But they were not allowed to touch their crops till the government procurement window had closed, forcing them to miss out on the minimum support price.

For the past two years, these villagers have also been prevented from entering the forest to collect minor forest produce such as wood and tendu leaves, used to roll bidis, as their fellow tribespeople accuse them of "betraying the community" by "converting into Christianity".

"They said the forest belonged only to Adivasis and that we were not Adivasis any more," says Bhutni Korram, one of the Vishwasis, who added that they have not even been allowed to bury their dead in the village and have been forced to use a cemetery in Narayanpur town.

Safety first: Security personnel travelling to poll-bound Chhattisgarh for election duty on October 28. PTI

In the Narayanpur and Kondagaon districts of the Bastar plateaus, at least 14 villages saw Vishwasis being driven out by the majority Adivasi population last December, with support from organisations linked to the Sangh Parivar, amid allegations that large numbers of tribespeople were being converted by Christian missionaries.

"It all started in 2021, just when we had finished building a new prayer house here," Sunheri Salam, 40, tells *The Hindu*, adding that it was meant to be a common space for Sunday prayers for Vishwasis from the neighbouring villages. "But as we started to gather, a few villagers stopped us from bringing in outsiders, alleging that we were promoting religious conversion," she said, adding that they have been relegated to praying privately in their homes ever since they returned.

The Vishwasis, however, refuse to identify as Christians or even acknowledge that they have a religion. They worship in prayer halls, not churches, which are unadorned by any images. Instead, these Madia-Gond families say they became "believers" at the turn of the century because of the help they got from Christian missionaries in dealing with personal crises.

With the Remawand Vishwasis now starting to return to their villages under police protection and preparing to vote, the Congress is promising action against their oppressors in a bid to win their trust. The BJP, on the other hand, is courting the Adivasis who drove them out with the rhetoric of religious conversion.

Remawand village falls in the Narayanpur Assembly constituency (reserved for Scheduled Tribes), where the Congress incumbent MLA, Chandan Kashyap, is contesting against the BJP's Kedar Kashyap. The Communist Party of India's Phool Chand Kachlam also in the fray. The villageis set to vote on November 7.

The BJP won the seat in 2013, but it was among 11 of the 12 Bastar seats that the Congress swept in 2018.

With neither of the Kashyaps visiting Remawand yet during this election cycle, Mr. Kachlam has been regularly interacting with the Vishwasis, helping them learn how to draft police complaints and protest letters, and how to reach the administration with their issues, the villagers said.

"The Congress is sending its workers now to tell us that they made a mistake and will ensure justice if we vote for them this time. At the same time, the BJP workers are outright threatening us that if they win, they will kick us out of our homes and lands permanently. We are scared," said Nangru Korram of Remawand village.

But even as the Vishwasis of Remawand find it difficult to trust the Congress's promises of ensuring their safety, they say the party coming back to power in the State might not be that bad for them – given the loans they have been buried under due to deficient rain ruining their paddy crop.

In parched Jodhpur, voters angry over unkept promises, water woes

Sobhana K. Nair
JODHPUR

Across Jodhpur, the arid home district of Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, the complaints are familiar – erratic electricity supply and lack of drinking water – with voters blaming the BJP government at the Centre and the Congress government in the State for their woes.

Jodhpur MP and Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, however, faces the greater share of the anger, and voters directly connect the failure to provide drinking water to him.

However, it is not clear if this anger will translate into support for the Congress, which had managed to swing seven out of 10 seats in Jodhpur in the 2018 Assembly election, giving it an edge to form the government.

"In the name of Jal Jeevan Mission, we have a few overhead tanks, but the supply has not reached us. In the summer, we are still dependent on water tankers, which supply costly water," says Hukma Ram Godhara, 44, a Jat farmer at Lohawat, about 120 km from Jodhpur town.

This is a complaint that one hears over and over again across the district. As per the Jal Jeevan Mission portal, only 44% of rural households in Jodhpur have tap water supply.

Voters complain that even these households that have got a connection on paper receive an infrequent supply of water through those taps.

Poll metric: Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot with supporters during his election campaign for the Assembly polls, in Jodhpur. PTI

In the Luni Assembly constituency, on the outskirts of Jodhpur, 66-year-old electrician Devnarayan Patel holds a grudge against Mr. Shekhawat. "He got the highest vote from Luni, but he has not done anything for us. The Water Minister didn't bring us water," he said.

Recurrent complaints

These recurrent complaints should be reassuring for the Congress, but the party is not sure how much of this anger will translate into actual votes against the BJP. Mr. Godhara does not offer the ruling party much hope; even as he rants about the lack of drinking water, he declares his commitment to the BJP. "I will break my finger, but I won't vote for the Congress," he said.

Congress voters may applaud the welfare schemes run by the Rajasthan government, but add several qualifiers. "Ashok*ji*'s administration was outstanding; he delivered on all the promises he made. But I will decide who to vote for depending on the candidate they field here," says 54-year-old Babu Lal Bishnoi, who runs a sweet shop in Phalaudi.

Since it is the Chief Minister's home district, the Congress wants to retain its seats here as a matter of prestige, but the party is not showing the necessary speed to consolidate its 2018 gains. The odds are stacked against the Congress if one is to believe the Phalaudi satta market. This week, bets are being placed on the BJP winning 119 to 121 seats, with just 60 to 65 for the Congress. For the Phalaudi seat itself, however, where voters like Mr. Bishnoi are waiting to make up their minds, all bets are off as the Congress is yet to finalise its candidate here.

Shergarh is in a similar quandary, with neither the BJP nor the Congress announcing candidates from the constituency yet.

The urban seat of Jodhpur City was another constituency that the Congress managed to wrest from the BJP, thanks to trying a new caste arithmetic by fielding Manisha Panwar, who is from an Other Backward Class (OBC) community. The seat has a significant Muslim presence, and the consolidation of OBC and Muslim votes turned out to be a winning combination.

Anti-incumbency

Ms. Panwar has been renominated again by the Congress, and the BJP is hoping to wean OBC votes away from her by keeping last year's communal clashes in Jodhpur central to its campaign.

The Congress, though it vehemently denies the allegation, is aware of the anti-incumbency current against Ms. Panwar.

The Soorsagar seat, represented by the BJP's Suryakant Vyas, may be up for grabs as the 84-year-old veteran has been denied ticket this time around. Mr. Gehlot made a political point by meeting her during his visit to Jodhpur, but the Congress is yet to field anyone from the seat.

To further complicate Jodhpur's poll arithmetic, Hanuman Beniwal's Rashtriya Loktantrik Party has also fielded candidates from Lohawat, Bilara, and Luni. Drawing primarily on the Jat votes, the party could hurt the BJP in those three seats.

INBRIEF

Raj Bhavan opens doors for fans to watch today's match

As grievances continued over the unavailability of tickets for the World Cup clash between India and South Africa at Eden Gardens on Sunday, the Raj Bhavan in Kolkata located next to the iconic cricket stadium opened its doors for cricket fans who are unable to get the tickets for the cricket match. "The Raj Bhavan will open its doors to the public on Sunday, November 5, from 12 noon to 2 p.m. to watch the World Cup Cricket Match. 500 people will be admitted on a first-come, first-served basis to watch the match till the end on the lawns of the Raj Bhavan," a press statement from the Raj Bhavan said. People who want to watch the cricket match will have to bring in government identity cards such as Aadhaar and mail the documents to aamnesaamne.rajbhavankolkata@gmail.com.

JD(U) chief asks BJP to prove Modi belongs to EBC group

Janata Dal(U) president Rajiv Ranjan Singh, aka Lalan Singh, on Saturday slammed Prime Minister Narendra Modi by calling him a fraud. Addressing a public meeting in Bihar, he said that Mr. Modi does not belong to the Extremely Backward Class (EBC) or even Backward Class (BC). He termed the BJP *Badka Jhootha Party*. "In 2014, Prime Minister Narendra Modi called himself the son of Extremely Backward Classes. I challenge the BJP leaders to prove that Narendra Modi belongs to the EBC. The community which he belongs to was made part of the Backward Class in Gujarat in 2000 when Atal Bihari Vajpayee was the Prime Minister of the country. How can he be EBC"? he asked.

Fire in Raigad factory: eight bodies recovered, says NDRF

Eight bodies have been recovered till Saturday afternoon following the fire that broke out at a pharmaceutical company in Raigad district of Maharashtra a day ago, while search for three missing persons continued, an NDRF official said. However, the Raigad police, in a release, put the death toll at seven, adding that samples had been obtained from the kin of the 11 persons, who were declared missing immediately after the blaze, for identification purposes through DNA testing. The blaze at Blue Jet Healthcare in MIDC Mahad, some 170 kilometres from Mumbai, started at 11 a.m. on Friday, the National Disaster Response Force official added. PTI

Former U.P. MLA Vijay Mishra convicted in rape case

A Bhadohi court in Uttar Pradesh on Saturday sentenced former MLA Vijay Mishra to a 15-year prison term in a rape case. The court held the former MLA guilty under Section 376-2(N) (commits rape repeatedly on the same woman) and criminal intimidation of the IPC. Until now, he has been convicted in three cases, The matter dates back to October 2020, when the victim filed a complaint alleging that in 2014, the former MLA called her to perform at a programme at his house and raped her. Mishra had won Assembly elections in 2002, 2007, 2012 and 2017.

SUDOKU

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	4				5			7
	6				9		1	
4		6	9			7		
	9						5	
		5			3	2		6
	3		5				6	
8			1				4	
		9	8		4	1		

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

8	5	1	7	4	9	3	6	2
3	2	7	6	5	1	9	4	8
4	6	9	8	3	2	5	7	1
2	1	4	3	7	5	8	9	6
9	7	6	2	1	8	4	3	5
5	3	8	9	6	4	1	2	7
6	9	5	4	8	7	2	1	3
1	4	3	5	2	6	7	8	9
7	8	2	1	9	3	6	5	4

'Some traders are taking advantage of seasonal change in onion supply'

Union Consumer Affairs Secretary says export curbs and other recent measures are stabilising onion prices, though pulses remain expensive; he says the curbs won't impact rural economy and purchasing capacity of farmers; and all ingredients for making Deepavali sweets are available in plenty

INTERVIEW

Rohit Kumar Singh

A.M. Jigeesh

Ahead of the festival season and Assembly elections in five States, the rising prices of several essential items are creating a headache for BJP-ruled governments. For instance, onion prices, government data show, are more than double last year's rates.

The Union government has taken several steps to combat this, including export curbs on onions, foodgrains and sugar.

Union Consumer Affairs Secretary Rohit Kumar Singh maintains a watch on the prices of almost all essential grocery items, vegetables and milk products daily through the price monitoring cell of his Ministry. Mr. Singh says that recent measures have started showing results and prices are becoming more stable. Edited excerpts:

Onion prices have increased again. What are the reasons for this, and what steps have you taken to curb it?

Prices are governed by availability. Availability is driven by our domestic prices minus our exports of onions. Export is driven by international prices and international demand, which is mostly from countries such as Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Qatar, and Indonesia. Production has been good, but onion is a perishable item. 70% of the onions are from rabi season and 30% from kharif. We cannot store rabi onions beyond four to five months. The kharif harvest is usually delayed and the supply comes down in these months.

The traders take advantage of the situation in this little period. It is not just demand and supply, it is also manipulation by traders. Not all traders are bad, but some are taking advantage of this situation. It is not hoarding, it is speculation – spreading news of shortage. There is no instance of deliberate hoarding.

To check this, we increased the buffer stock of onions to five lakh metric tonnes. If the government has enough buffer stock, the market will be very wary. It will also help the farmers to get the best price. We intervened in both retail and wholesale markets. We check the prices at 550 locations on a daily basis. This database reflects the entire country.

SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

On the retail front, we are selling onions at around a thousand points in 100 cities across the country at a rate of about ₹25 a kilogram.

These measures have an impact on the prices. The prices started going up in mid-October and one reason was excess exports to Bangladesh. We checked that by imposing 40% export duty, but it was not working. Then, we implemented a minimum export price by making onion trade unviable in the countries where exports were taking place.

The Centre has been maintaining that controlling prices of tomatoes, onions and potatoes (TOP) is a 'top' priority. But critics say this policy has failed .

The volatility in prices has nothing to do with policies. It is how these commodities behave and it is how they are produced at different sub-geographies in the country at different points in time, and how is the perishability of these commodities.

A sudden variation in terms of rains are susceptible to these crops. But we are intervening through market intervention scheme to procure these products.

Also, when the prices go high – up to ₹200 a kilogram for tomatoes, it was unprecedented, and we intervened by picking up the transportation cost.

Such direct intervention in retail sales were for the first time.

There are concerns about the prices of wheat, rice, pulses, and edible oils. How do you look at this?

We have taken adequate care to stop hoarding of foodgrains. There are stock limits on wheat, pulses, and other commodities.

Edible oil is dependent on imports. Now, international prices are down and it is helping the consumers. If prices crash too much, farmers will not be incentivised. So we are trying to bring a balance between the interests of farmers and interests of consumers. Secretaries of four Departments (Agriculture, Commerce, Food and Consumer Affairs) meet every week to ensure this balance.

On pulses, there is a little concern on the prices of tur dal. Last year, production was less and there is a gap between consumption and production. So we had to import tur from Myanmar and East African countries.We are getting supplies, but prices are high though not increasing. We have to bring it down. We are hopeful of increasing the production of tur in this season.

Deepavali is a festival of sweets too. After the lumpy skin disease outbreak among cattle, there was an issue of rising milk prices, and a decrease in the production of milk, ghee, and butter. Sugar also faces import restrictions.

There is absolutely no concern about the availability of milk, ghee, butter, and sugar. For example, for making *laddus*, we have chickpea available in excess. Ghee is available and sugar is also available.

Onions, rice, sugar cane are all cash crops for many farmers. So is restricting exports impacting the rural economy and the purchasing capacity of farmers?

Absolutely not. Governments will have to prioritise domestic consumption. Exports can be done only after satisfying the local environment. We have trade relations and export commitments, but only if products are available. Availability and affordability is the fundamental principle of the government. Domestic supplies are primary. Farmers are not selling it in distress. They are getting reasonable prices and profit. But they are not making a killing, which is probably possible because of the conflicts.

They may not get that undue benefit because of the government's approach of protecting the domestic interests.

IL-38s that heralded long-range surveillance for Navy fly into sunset

Dinakar Peri
PANAJI

"A journey that commenced on October 1, 1977, with the commissioning of the Indian Naval Air Squadron (INAS) 315 at Goa, ends with the de-induction of the IL-38 today," said Commander Mrinmoy Ghosh, Commanding Officer of the Winged Stallions squadron, addressing members of the commissioning crew and numerous others who gathered along with their families for the de-induction ceremony at INS Hansa last week. Cheers erupted from the crowd while several became emotional reminiscing their long association with the aircraft that served for 46 years.

Navy Chief Admiral R. Hari Kumar and other officers and veterans after the last flight of IL-38 in Goa. DINAKAR PERI

The IL-38 Sea Dragon heralded long-range maritime surveillance for the force and now the Navy has Dorniers at the lower end and the P-8Is at the higher end of surveillance and is looking to induct C-295 aircraft in the medium-range maritime patrol aircraft (MPA) role in the future, in addition to adding more long-endurance unmanned aerial vehicles.

"The aircraft (IL-38) has laid the foundation for long-range patrol as well as anti-submarine warfare (ASW) for the Indian Navy. It has good electronic intelligence, signal Intelligence and sensor capability. We used the aircraft in all major operations and exercises... Over a period of time it gets difficult to maintain the aircraft, and its coming to the end of its service life. Old has to give way to new," the Navy chief, Admiral R. Hari Kumar, said.

The glorious journey of Winged Stallions showcases the focused efforts of all Stallions present in Panaji today, Cdr. Ghosh said

Railway and defence trade unions to hold vote to go on strike

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Almost 50 years after the 20-day railway workers' strike in 1974 that shook the Indira Gandhi government, rampant preparations are under way for another indefinite strike in the sector demanding replacing the National Pension Scheme with the Old Pension Scheme. Trade unions will hold a secret ballot on November 20 and 21 among 12 lakh Railway employees and 3.9 lakh civilian workers at defence establishments such as ordnance factories seeking approval for the strike.

The Joint Forum for Restoration of Old Pension Scheme, a platform of 60 unions in Central establishments and Central public sector undertakings, is organising the ballot.

The RSS-affiliated Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh backs the demand for the OPS. "We are demanding restoration of OPS. We will not give any call to participate in the ballot, but we will not oppose it," BMS general secretary Ravindra Himte said.

The ballot will be valid if 75% members participate. The strike can be called if two-third of the votes are polled in favour of it.

'Enemy property' Butler Palace to turn into a tourist haven

Mayank Kumar
LUCKNOW

Lucknow's once-grand three-storey Butler Palace, left deserted and in darkness for many decades, will see a facelift. Local people believe the house, built a century ago, in a mix of Rajasthani and Indo-Mughal styles, is 'haunted'. Neighbours say the palace has been stripped off its brass and other saleable parts by drug and alcohol addicts. But the police deny this.

The palace, originally built as the official residence of the Commissioner of Avadh, Harcourt Butler, in 1915, was owned by the royal family of Mahmudabad. By its own account, the family migrated to India in the 13th century and settled in erstwhile Avadh, current Lucknow, in the 16th century, and owed allegiance to the Mughals. Mohammed Amir Ahmad Khan, the king at the time of Independence, migrated to Pakistan, while his son Mohammad Amir Mohammad Khan, stayed on in India as a citizen, fighting a legal battle over several properties, including Butler Palace.

After the India-Pakistan war in 1965, Butler Palace was declared "enemy property" by the Government of India. The Enemy Property Act, 1968, which came later, made the stand more binding. This is one of the 361 "enemy properties" in Lucknow alone, say authorities, with many originally belonging to the Mahmudabad family. It was only last month, however, that the Lucknow Development Authority (LDA) got the go-ahead to spruce up the place for tourism. "We have received the no-objection certificate from the Custodian of Enemy Property Department [under the Union government], three weeks ago. We will start the renovation of the building soon," Indramani Tripathi, Vice-Chairperson of the LDA, said.

The restoration work of Butler Palace in Lucknow is under way and it is expected to complete in next six months. SANDEEP SAXENA

The authorities are rejuvenating the Butler lake, for which the LDA already had the rights, by constructing pathways along the perimeter, landscaping, lighting, and starting a cafeteria for visitors. The authority plans to renovate and strengthen Butler House and construct a musical fountain in front. Up to ₹5 crore each has been allocated for work on the palace and the lake, he said. "We will complete the project in roughly four months. It will serve as a tourist place along with a heritage look," he added.

> We have received the no-objection certificate from the Custodian of Enemy Property Department [under the Centre], three weeks ago
>
> **INDRAMANI TRIPATHI**
> Vice-Chairperson of the LDA

After being declared enemy property in the 1960s, the premises were handed over to the Uttar Pradesh government, who used it as a sales tax office. In the 1980s, it was given to the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, an organisation under the Union Human Resource Development Ministry.

Legal battle

Mohammad Amir Mohammad Khan died last month at the age of 80. The former MLA fought a more than four-decade-long court battle against the Union of India and got a brief respite in 2005, when the Supreme Court declared him a bona fide citizen and not an enemy as defined by the Act. However, in 2010, the Union government brought in an Ordinance to amend the Act, subsequently passed by Parliament in 2017, bringing successors within its ambit. The family is still fighting the case in the Supreme Court over properties that include Butler Palace.

"We have no comments to make, the matter is *sub judice* in the Supreme Court," said Ali Khan Mahmudabad, an heir of the former royal family.

The palace is hardly 5 km from Kalidas Marg, the Chief Minister's house. Pre-Independence, "The who's who of British India including Jawaharlal Nehru spent time here," said Amit Rai, a historian teaching at Shia P.G. College in Lucknow. After Independence, several political leaders have stayed there.

ISTANBUL

Turkey recalls Israel envoy, 'breaks off' contacts with PM Netanyahu

REUTERS

Turkey said it was recalling its Ambassador to Israel and breaking off contacts with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in protest against the bloodshed in Gaza. Ankara announced the decisions on the eve of what promises to be a difficult visit to Turkey by U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken. AFP

DHAKA

Bangladesh garment workers clash with police as factories reopen

AFP

Striking Bangladesh garment workers clashed with police near Dhaka as factories reopened in defiance of protests demanding a near-tripling of wages. Clashes broke out in the industrial town of Ashulia, west of Dhaka, after around 10,000 workers attempted to prevent their colleagues from returning to their shifts. AFP

HONG KONG

Gay Games open in Hong Kong after delay due to pandemic curbs

AP

More than a thousand athletes gathered in a Hong Kong stadium on Saturday to open the Gay Games, the first time the international LGBTQ sporting event has come to Asia. The event was initially slated for last November but was delayed due to Hong Kong's strict pandemic curbs, which were only eased late last year. AFP

ISLAMABAD

Taliban appeal to Afghan private sector to help refugees from Pak.

AFP

The Taliban on Saturday appealed to Afghanistan's private sector to help people fleeing Pakistan's mass deportation drive. Pakistan is arresting and expelling all foreigners it says are in the country illegally, but the policy mostly affects Afghans because they are the biggest group of undocumented foreigners in the country. AP

Israel's military strikes kill multiple civilians at shelters in Gaza Strip

Israel claims to have encircled Gaza city, offers trapped citizens a three-hour window to flee south; U.S. Secretary of State Blinken meets Arab Foreign Ministers in Jordan

Associated Press
RAFAH

Israeli military strikes killed multiple civilians on Saturday at a UN shelter and hospital in the main combat zone in the Gaza Strip as the assault intensified on the besieged enclave's Hamas rulers, amid growing international uproar over the soaring death toll and deepening humanitarian crisis.

Israel's military said it had encircled Gaza City, the target of its offensive to crush Hamas, but on Saturday offered a three-hour window for residents trapped by the fighting to flee south.

Mangled mess: A Palestinian man and his son sit holding a bag of bread outside a destroyed bakery at the Nuseirat refugee camp in central Gaza. AFP

Blinken's visit

The new attacks came as U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken was in the region seeking ways to ease the plight of civilians caught in the fighting. He met with Arab Foreign Ministers in Jordan, the day after talks in Israel with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who insisted there could be no temporary cease-fire until all hostages held by Hamas are released.

Egyptian officials said they and Qatar were proposing humanitarian pauses for six to 12 hours daily to allow aid in and casualties to be evacuated. They were also asking for Israel to release a number of women and elderly prisoners in exchange for hostages held by Hamas.

On Saturday, two strikes hit a UN school-turned-shelter just north of Gaza City, killing several people in tents in the schoolyard and women who were baking bread inside the building, according to the UN agency for Palestinian refugees.

Initial reports indicated that 20 people were killed but the agency has not yet been able to verify the figure, said spokeswoman Juliette Touma.

Horrific situation: UN

With food, water and the fuel needed for generators that power hospitals and other facilities running out, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres urged an immediate cease-fire to allow aid in.

"The humanitarian situation in Gaza is horrific," Mr. Guterres said late on Friday in an unusually blunt statement. "An entire population is traumatised, nowhere is safe."

Mr. Guterres said civilians and civilian infrastructure must be protected. He also said civilians must not be used as human shields, and called upon Hamas to release all of the roughly 240 hostages it has.

The family home of Hamas' exiled leader Ismail Haniyeh, in the Shati refugee camp on the northern edge of Gaza City, was hit on Saturday morning by an airstrike.

More than 9,400 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza so far, including more than 3,900 Palestinian children, the Gaza Health Ministry said, without providing a breakdown between civilians and fighters.

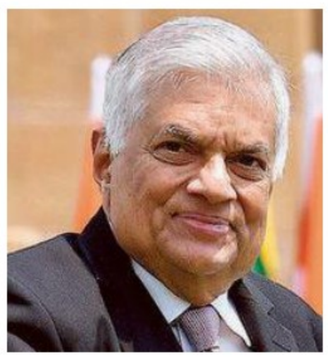
Ranil questions 'double standards' of U.S. over human rights in Gaza and Sri Lanka

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe has accused the West, and the U.S. in particular, of "double standards" in addressing human rights concerns in Gaza and Sri Lanka.

"All measures taken to combat terrorism must comply fully with states' obligation under international law. In particular, international human rights law..." he told a gathering on Friday, at the inauguration of a courts complex.

Naming the U.S. and Canada, Mr. Wickremesinghe said: "They all got together and passed a resolution against Sri Lanka". He was referring to the October 2022 resolution passed by the UN Human Rights Council that, among other things, called upon the Sri Lankan government to ensure the "prompt, thorough and impartial investigation and, if warranted, prosecution of all alleged crimes relating to human rights violations..."



Ranil Wickramasinghe

Contending that "what applies to us must also apply in Gaza," Mr. Wickremesinghe said: "What the U.S. has told us, they must also ensure is enforced in Gaza."

Sri Lanka – along with all South Asian countries barring India – voted in favour of the resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly last month calling for "immediate, durable and sustained humanitarian truce leading to a cessation of hostilities" in Gaza. Meanwhile, Sri Lankans have been holding protests in solidarity with Palestine in different parts of the country, including one in the eastern Trincomalee district on Friday and in Colombo on Saturday, which saw women and children participate in large numbers.

While Mr. Wickremesinghe sought to call out the West for its "double standards", his comments drew immediate backlash from government critics and rights advocates, who took to social media and reminded President Wickremesinghe's of the Sri Lankan state's own obligations, amid enduring calls for truth, justice and accountability. Prominent human rights activist Ambika Satkunanathan said on social media platform X: "The standard is not whether the US applies diff laws to SL and to #Gaza, but whether intl law is being violated. Intl law was breached in SL and it is being breached in #Gaza..."

Opposition MP and Leader of the Tamil Progressive Alliance Mano Ganesan said on X: "Need no explanation, Mr. President... That's the western world order. What's wrong in #Ukraine is right in #Gaza. But before blaming West look at the so called #SriLankan order," he said, adding that "what is right for Palestinians is wrong for Sri Lanka's Tamils".

Pakistan military kills nine who attacked Air Force base

Agence France-Presse
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's military said its forces killed nine armed men who attacked an Air Force training base on Saturday, with a group affiliated with the Pakistan Taliban claiming responsibility.

"All nine terrorists have been sent to hell," the military said in a statement, adding that its operation had concluded.

Three men were killed before they entered the base, and three other attackers had been "cornered/isolated", the military said earlier.

The Tehreek-e-Jihad Pakistan (TJP), a newly emerged militant group that is an affiliate of the home-grown Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) movement, claimed responsibility for the attack in a statement to media.

Armed men stormed the base in the early hours of Saturday morning in the city of Mianwali, in central Punjab province, near the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa border.

"Some damage was done to three already phased out non-operational aircraft during the attack," the military said, without elaborating.

With EU chief in Ukraine, Zelensky denies war with Russia at 'stalemate'

Agence France-Presse
KYIV

President Volodymyr Zelensky denied on Saturday that Ukraine's war with Russia had reached a "stalemate", pushing back at suggestions Western leaders were lobbying for peace talks.

The sprawling frontline between the two warring sides has barely moved in almost a year, with one senior Ukrainian official warning this week that the conflict was deadlocked.

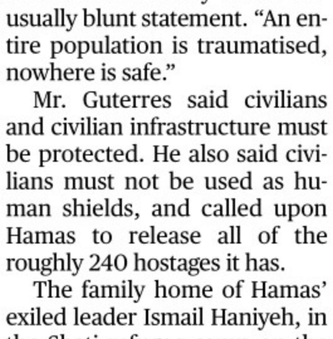
"Time has passed, people are tired... But this is not a stalemate," Mr. Zelensky told a press conference in Kyiv with EU Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen.

'No pressure from west'

The Ukrainian leader also rejected the idea Western countries were putting pressure on Kyiv to enter negotiations with Russia, amid reports U.S. and EU officials had discussed what such talks would entail.

"No one among our partners is pressuring us to sit down with Russia, talk to it, and give it something," he said.

With the war now in its 20th month and Ukraine struggling to gain ground in its counteroffensive, Mr. Zelensky has routinely met Western leaders in a bid to stave off fatigue with the conflict.



Volodymyr Zelensky

Mr. Zelensky said the war between Israel and Hamas had also drawn attention away from Ukraine, and said that this was "Russia's goal".

"Of course, it's clear that the war in West Asia, this conflict, is taking away the focus," Mr. Zelensky said.

Mr. Zelensky's comments came as EU Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen visited Kyiv to discuss Ukraine's progress toward joining the 27-member bloc.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF,
RURAL WORKS, ODISHA, BHUBANESWAR
Letter.No. 34157, Dated : 02/11/23 Email i.d. : crew_bbsr@yahoo.com

"e" Procurement Notice for bridge works in Odisha (Online-09(Bridge)/2024-23 dt.02.11.2023)

1. Name of the work : **"Construction of bridge work"**
2. Total No. of Works : **08** (Eight) nos
3. Estimated cost : **Rs.1043.00 lakh to Rs.2250.00 lakh**
4. Class of Contractor : **A Class, Special Class & Super Class as applicable.**
5. Period of Completion : **18** (Eighteen) & **24** (Twenty-four) Calendar months (As mentioned in Col.7 of TCN Annexure).
6. Other details :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	No. of bridge works	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding From	To
Chief Engineer, Buildings & Bridges, Rural Works,Odisha, Bhubaneswar	Online-09 (Bridge)/ 2023-24	08 (Eight) nos.	09.11.2023 at 11.00 A.M	23.11.2023 upto 5.00 P.M

Other details can be seen in the bidding documents, which will be available in website www.tendersorissa.gov.in .
Chief Engineer (Buildings & Bridges), Rural Works,Odisha, Bhubaneswar
O-1448: OIPR-25123/11/0032/2324

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA - DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, CANAL CIRCLE, BURLA

e-Procurement Notice No.CCB-03/2023-24
Bid Identification No.-CCB-03/2023-24

1.	Type of the work	:	**Road Work**
2.	No of Works	:	**1 (One) no.**
3.	Class of Contractor	:	**"A" & "Special" Class**
4.	Bid Identification No.	:	**CCB-03/2023-24**
5.	Estimated Cost	:	**Rs.756.40 Lakhs (Approx)**
6.	Period of Completion	:	**18 (Eighteen) Calendar Months** including rainy season
7.	Date and time of availability of bid documents in the portal	:	**Dt.15.11.2023 at 10.00 AM to Dt.05.12.2023 up to 5.30 PM**
8.	Last Date / time for receipt of bids in the portal	:	**Dt.05.12.2023 up to 5.30 PM**
9.	Date of Opening of Technical Bid (Cover-I)	:	**Dt.06.12.2023 at 11.30 AM, O/o Additional Chief Engineer, Canal Circle, Burla.**
10.	Date of Opening of Financial Bid (Cover-II)	:	**To be intimated later**
11.	Name and Address of the Officer inviting Bid	:	**Additional Chief Engineer, Canal Circle, Burla - 768017 Email Id: addlceccburla@gmail.com**

1. Any addendum/corrigendum/cancellation/erratum of tender can also be seen in the said Website.
2. Further details can be seen from Government Website **http://tenderodisha.gov.in .**

ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, CANAL CIRCLE, BURLA
A-765 : OIPR-32460/11/0007/2324

Government of Odisha,
Office of the Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur.
E-mail Id: serwcirclesbp@yahoo.com

Bid Identification No. Road Tender Online RWCSBP-43/2023-24 No : 3269 Dated : 03.11.2023

The Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites online percentage rate Bid from experienced & eligible bidders for **03 (Three) nos of road works** under CMRL & Imp. to existing RD road for the year 2022-23 & 2023-24.

1. **Name of work** : **Road works under CMRL & Imp. to existing RD Road for the year 2022-23 & 2023-24.**
2. **No of work** : **03 (Three) nos of Road works Details as per DTCN**
3. **Estimated Cost** : **Approximately Cost Rs.411.75 lakhs to Rs.760.60 Lakhs.**
4. **Class of Contractor** : **'A' & 'Special' Class**
5. **Cost of tender paper and mode of deposit** : **Rs.10,000/- per set.(to be deposited On-line) in favour of concerned Superintending Engineer.**
6. **Mode of submission of tender** : **Tender should be submitted only On line in website www.tendersorissa.gov.in .(https//tendersodisha.gov.in)**
7. **EMD and mode of deposit** : **1% of estimated cost of the work to be remitted online as mentioned in DTCN.**
8. **Summary of Key dates are provided below :**

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender online for bidding From	To	Last Date & Time for seeking clarification	Date & Time of Opening of tender Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur.	**Road Tender Online - RWCSBP-43/2023-24**	**09.11.2023 at 11.00.A.M.**	**23.11.2023 up to 5.00 P.M.**	**22.11.2023 up to 5.00.P.M.**	**24.11.2023 at 11.00.A.M.**	**To be intimated later**

* Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal **www.tendersorissa.gov.in. (https//tendersodisha.gov.in)**
* Subsequent modification/ corrigendum/Addendum if required shall appear in website only.
* The amount put to bid is exclusive of GST.
* Bidder should inspect the road before bidding and quote his rate accordingly.

Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur.
O-1444 : OIPR-25091/11/0065/2324

NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY DELHI
Sector 14, Dwarka, New Delhi-110078
Website: https://nationallawuniversitydelhi.in, https://www.nludelhi.ac.in
Helpdesk contact No. 011-40787555, Email: ailetsupport@nludelhi.ac.in

ADMISSION ANNOUNCEMENT - 2024-25

The University invites online applications for admission to **B.A.LL.B.(Hons.), LL.M. and Ph.D. Programmes** for the Academic Year 2024-25 latest by Monday, November 13, 2023. All India Law Entrance Test will be conducted on Sunday, December 10, 2023.

For category wise reservation, seat matrix, Test City and other details relating to Online Application Forms, Admit Cards, Eligibility Criteria, Pattern of Test etc., please visit https://nationallawuniversitydelhi.in

PROF. (DR.) RUHI PAUL
REGISTRAR

ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POST OF CHIEF TECHNICAL EXAMINER

Applications are invited for empanelment to the post of **Chief Technical Examiner (Civil)** on deputation basis in the Finance (Inspection- Technical) Department, Government of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram. The details are published in the official website **(www.finance.kerala.gov.in)** of Finance Department.

The last date for receiving the application is 30.11.2023.

Sd/- VIJAYASREE M.S.
(3008/F4/2023/I&PRD) Joint Secretary (Finance)

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : 1) RE-T No 193/2023-24/SE/PHC/CHN, 2)E-T No 195/2023-24/SE/PHC/CHN,3) E-T No196/2023-24/SE/PHC/CHN, 4) Re-T No 199/2023-24/SE/PHC/CHN, 1)JJM- WSS to Sreemoolanagaram - Construction of Raw Water Well cum Pump House , Erection of Pump sets, Construction of 20MLD WTP at Chowara, Erection of transformer 2) NELLIKUZHY - Well cum Pump house , RWPM, 3) WSS to Ramamangalam - Well cum Pump house at Methipara , OHSR at WTP site, RWP & CWP , Electrical installation 4) AMRUT-2.0 Laying Distribution mains from the OHSR at Kaloor-General Civil Work-1- From OHSR to Kaloor Junction and Palarivattom, **EMD** : Rs. 500000/-, 500000/-, 200000/-, 500000/-, **Tender fee** : Rs. 19517.2,19517.2, 13010,19517.2, **Last Date for submitting Tender** : 21-11-2023 03:00:pm, **Phone** : 04884-2360645
Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
Superintending Engineer
KWA-JB-GL-6-1499-2023-24 PH Circle, Kochi

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : Rt-e-Tender No.140 to 143/2023-24/SE/PHC/ALP, KIIFB-Augmentation and Modernization of water Supply to Alappuzha Municipality,, Arrad. Mannanchery. Mararikulam South Panchayaths-Balance Works- package 4, 7, 8 and 9 Laying Distribution lines in Alappuzha Municipality Zone 1, 2, 7 and 8-Pipeline Work, **EMD** : Rs. 500000/-, **Tender fee** : Rs. 1 9518/-, **Last Date for submitting Tender** : 24-11-2023 02:00:pm, **Phone** : 0477-2237954
Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
Superintending Engineer
KWA-JB-GL-6-1513-2023-24 PH circle, Alappuzha

BANGALORE URBAN ZILLA PANCHAYATH
Office of the Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, First Floor, Zilla Panchayat Building, S. Kariyappa Road, Banashankari, Bengaluru - 560070.

No: EE/RDW&SD/BNG(U)/TND/13/2023-24
Dated: 03-11-2023

KPPP SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE

Tenders are invited through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal for the works approved Under JJM Head of grants for the year 2022-23 under Two Cover System. The Tender Documents can be obtained and Submitted **on or before 13-11-2023 upto 4.00 PM.** For further details contact the above address during office hours or visit Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division
DIPR/CP/1982/Adverto/2023-24 Bangalore Urban Dist, Bengaluru.

Larger-scale warfare may have occurred 1,000 years earlier

The Hindu Bureau

A re-analysis of more than 300 sets of 5,000-year-old skeletal remains excavated from a site in Spain suggests that many of the individuals may have been casualties of the earliest period of warfare in Europe, occurring over 1,000 years before the previous earliest known larger-scale conflict in the region. The study, published in *Scientific Reports*, indicates that both the number of injured individuals and the disproportionately high percentage of males affected suggest that the injuries resulted from a period of conflict, potentially lasting at least months. Conflict during the European Neolithic period (about 9,000 to 4,000 years ago) remains poorly understood. Previous research has suggested that conflicts consisted of short raids lasting no more than a few days and involving small groups of up to 20-30 individuals, and it was therefore assumed that early societies lacked the logistical capabilities to support longer, larger-scale conflicts. The earliest such conflict in Europe was previously thought to have occurred during the Bronze Age (about 4,000 to 2,800 years ago). Teresa Fernández Crespo from Universidad de Valladolid, Valladolid, Spain and others re-examined the skeletal remains of 338 individuals for evidence of healed and unhealed injuries. All the remains were from a single mass burial site in a shallow cave in the Rioja Alavesa region of northern Spain, radiocarbon dated to between 5,400 and 5,000 years ago. Fifty-two flint arrowheads had also been discovered at the same site, with previous research finding that 36 of these had minor damage associated with hitting a target.

The authors found that 23.1% of the individuals had skeletal injuries, with 10.1% having unhealed injuries, substantially higher than estimated injury rates for the time (7-17% and 2-5%, respectively). They also found that 74.1% of the unhealed injuries and 70.0% of the healed injuries had occurred in adolescent or adult males, a significantly higher rate than in females, and a difference not seen in other European Neolithic mass-fatality sites.

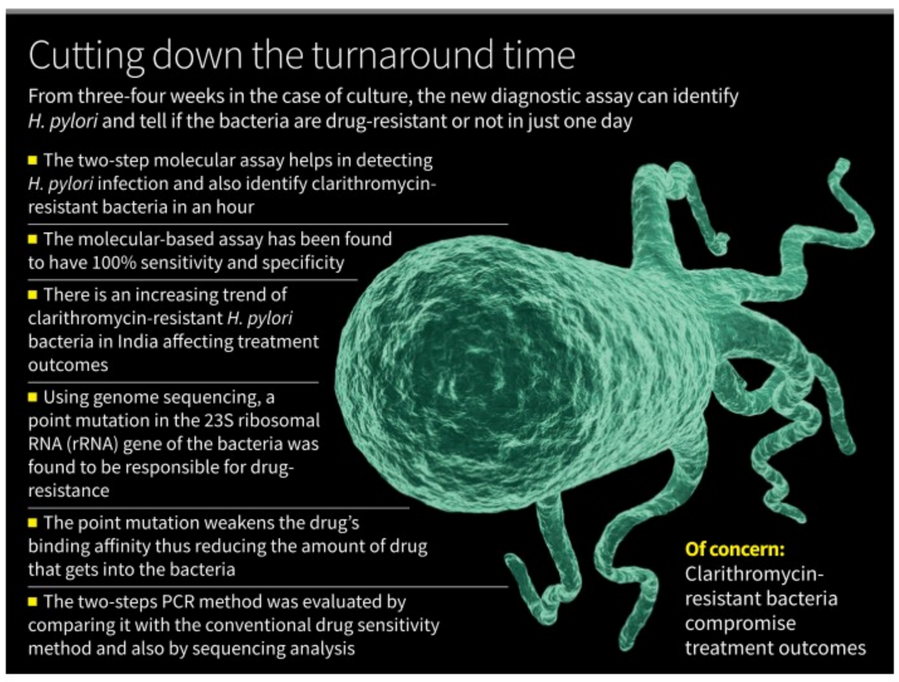
"Adolescent and adult males are particularly affected (44.9% of the 107 identified), comprising 97.6% of unhealed trauma and 81.7% of healed trauma recorded in individuals whose sex could be estimated and showing higher frequencies of injuries per individual than other demographic subgroups," they write. The relatively high rate of healed injuries suggests that the conflict continued over several months, according to the authors.

NICED makes quick detection of drug-resistant *H. pylori* possible

Since it takes weeks to know drug resistance through culture, drug-resistant studies of *H. pylori* are seldom carried out here; empirical treatment using clarithromycin drug is routinely used without knowing the drug-sensitivity

R. Prasad

A two-step PCR-based assay of a small region of the *Helicobacter pylori* (*H. pylori*) bacteria can help detect *H. pylori* infection and also identify clarithromycin-resistant bacteria and those which are drug-sensitive in six-seven hours has been developed by a team of researchers from the National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases (ICMR-NICED), Kolkata. Since *H. pylori* bacteria grow slowly, it takes about a week to culture the bacteria and a couple of more weeks to test for drug-sensitivity, which the new diagnostic assay bypasses. The molecular-based assay has been found to have 100% sensitivity and specificity. There is an increasing trend of clarithromycin-resistant *H. pylori* bacteria in India leading to a decreasing success rate in treating the infection.


Cutting down the turnaround time
From three-four weeks in the case of culture, the new diagnostic assay can identify *H. pylori* and tell if the bacteria are drug-resistant or not in just one day
The two-step molecular assay helps in detecting *H. pylori* infection and also identify clarithromycin-resistant bacteria in an hour
The molecular-based assay has been found to have 100% sensitivity and specificity
There is an increasing trend of clarithromycin-resistant *H. pylori* bacteria in India affecting treatment outcomes
Using genome sequencing, a point mutation in the 23S ribosomal RNA (rRNA) gene of the bacteria was found to be responsible for drug-resistance
The point mutation weakens the drug's binding affinity thus reducing the amount of drug that gets into the bacteria
The two-steps PCR method was evaluated by comparing it with the conventional drug sensitivity method and also by sequencing analysis
Of concern: Clarithromycin-resistant bacteria compromise treatment outcomes

Risk factors

Most of the infections caused by the bacterium *H. pylori* are asymptomatic, 10-15% of them develop peptic ulcer disorders or stomach cancer. In India, *H. pylori* infections affect 60-70% of the population. *H. pylori* infection is often acquired during childhood and remains in the stomach throughout life if not treated with antibiotics effectively. So, if someone suffers from gastroduodenal diseases along with the detection of *H. pylori* infection, eradication of the bacteria provides the most effective treatment. Importantly, *H. pylori* infection is one of the robust known risk factors for gastric cancer. As it takes three-four weeks to culture the bacteria and carry out drug-sensitivity tests, drug-resistant studies of *H. pylori* are seldom carried out in India. So, the conventionally used empirical treatment using clarithromycin is routinely used without knowing the drug-sensitivity. The growing incidence of clarithromycin-resistant bacteria is a big concern and has to be addressed as it is the most important reason for treatment failure. The NICED researchers undertook the study to identify the root cause of resistance toward clarithromycin and to develop a molecular-based technique for rapidly detecting antibiotic resistance.

The team led by Dr. Asish Kumar Mukhopadhyay from NICED turned to genome sequencing to identify that the drug resistance was due to a point mutation (A to G mutation at 2143 position) in the 23S ribosomal RNA (rRNA) gene of the bacteria. To confirm that the point mutation was indeed responsible for drug-resistance, the researchers isolated and amplified 617 base pairs that contained the point mutation and transferred the base pairs to drug-sensitive bacteria. "The drug-sensitive bacteria carrying the point mutation became resistant to the drug thus confirming that the point mutation was indeed responsible for developing resistance towards clarithromycin," Dr. Mukhopadhyay tells *The Hindu*. To further confirm the role of point mutation in drug resistance, the team sequenced the bacteria that had become drug-resistant after the base pairs were transferred and found that the point mutation was present in the bacteria. The results were published recently in the journal *Gut Pathogens*.

Bioinformatics study revealed that drug-resistant and drug-sensitive strains had very different binding affinity for the drug – the drug's binding affinity to the mutant was weaker compared with drug-sensitive bacteria. "Due to weak binding, less amount of the drug is able to get into the bacteria and so is unable to kill them. The point mutation is thus responsible for the clarithromycin resistance," he says. The DNA template used for assay was prepared by amplifying a small segment containing the point mutation from bacteria isolated directly from biopsy samples. The DNA template prepared from bacteria isolated directly from biopsy samples was validated with the DNA template prepared from bacteria that was cultured. "This was done to confirm the validity of the DNA template prepared from bacteria taken from biopsy samples," says Dr. Mukhopadhyay. The DNA template was used for the PCR-based assay.

The researchers developed a two-step PCR-based assay to first detect *H. pylori* infection and then to differentiate resistant isolates from sensitive ones directly from biopsy samples. In the initial step of PCR, the 617 base-pair segment containing the point mutation was amplified using DNA templates isolated from biopsy samples. In the second PCR step, 183 base pairs amplified by the first PCR step are used as a template. For the second PCR step, two allele-specific primer sets have been designed by exploiting the point mutation in the resistant strains. "The clarithromycin-resistant strains will get amplified only by the resistant-specific primer and not with the sensitive-specific primer. Similarly, the sensitive strains will get amplified only by the sensitive-specific primer and not the resistant-specific primer," he explains.

"The two-steps PCR method was evaluated by comparing it with the conventional drug sensitivity method and also by sequencing analysis, which showed 100% sensitivity and specificity," says Dr. Mukhopadhyay.

Environmental factors determine height of children

Y. Mallikarjun

In a significant finding, scientists have discovered that environmental factors play a greater role than genetic variants in determining the height of children in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) in contrast to those from European nations, where genetic aspects predominate in regulating childhood height.

This was expounded in a study carried out by the Hyderabad-based Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CSIR-CCMB) along with several other national and international institutions. The study was recently published in the journal *Nature Communications*.

While human height is strongly influenced by fixed genetic and variable environmental factors, the authors of the study noted that the contribution of modifiable epigenetic factors is under-explored. Epigenetic factors are external influences, including lifestyle, nutrition and environment that affect the way genes work. Epigenetic changes affect gene regulation and alter gene expression but not the DNA sequence.

Many environmental factors, including socio-economic status, nutrition and infection load are believed to influence childhood growth which plays a critical role in determining one's height. Quoting the World Health Organization, 2021 estimates which indicated that a large proportion of stunted children reside in LMIC, particularly in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa where undernutrition and associated co-morbidities are more prevalent compared to high income countries (HICs), the study observed "this offers a potential explanation for the disparity in height variation attributed to non-genetic factors between LMIC and high-income countries".

Although the impact of environmental exposure during early childhood is believed to be quite significant with long-term consequences, there are no genome-wide epigenetic investigations on height in childhood especially in low and middle income countries. Epigenetic processes such as DNA methylation and histone modifications can influence gene expression. Methylation basically is chemical modification of DNA molecule used by cells to regulate gene expression. It can be influenced by environmental factors such as diet, drugs, stress, exposure to chemicals and toxins.

Determinants: Environmental factors such as socio-economic status, nutrition and infection load influence childhood growth. PRASHANT NAKWE

In this study, the scientists did an epigenome-wide association analysis and genome-wide association study to independently investigate links between DNA methylation and genetic variants with childhood height in five cohorts–three from India, one from Gambia and another one from the U.K. The scientists found a novel, robust association between methylation in the SOCS3 gene and height in children from low and middle income countries which was replicated in the HIC cohort but with a lower effect size. "Overall, our study provides strong evidence of genome-wide DNA methylation associations with height in children from LMIC", the study observed. Interestingly, the established 12,000 genetic variants were also associated with height in Indians but their effect was lower compared to the European and American counterparts.

According to Dr. Giriraj Chandak, Sir J C Bose Fellow at CCMB, the genetic risk variations are similar for Europeans and Indians, although the magnitude differs between the two ancestries. However, the genetic risk appears to have been modified due to environmental factors in children in LMIC. The environmental cues that trigger the epigenetic processes in children in low and middle income countries are different in Indians and thus not influencing the epigenetic regulation of height in Europeans, he added.

(*Y. Mallikarjun is a freelancer writing on science and health*)

SNAPSHOTS

Monkeypox virus is evolving due to human transmission

A new analysis shows that the monkeypox, or mpox, virus is rapidly diverging into several lineages characterized by mutations resulting from continued interaction with the human immune system, suggesting that the virus has been circulating in humans since 2016. The sustained transmission among people marks a fundamental shift in monkeypox epidemiology as a zoonosis, "highlight the need for revising public health messaging around monkeypox and outbreak management and control".

Herbivory limits vegetation restoration success at sites

Excluding herbivores – or reintroducing their predators – may increase vegetation abundance by an average of 93 and 158% at natural regeneration and planted restoration sites, and introducing predators increased abundance by 138 and 372% at natural regeneration and planted restoration sites. The meta-analysis looked at more than 600 global studies. Herbivory on restoration sites had an overall negative effect on plant abundance and diversity, particularly at sites where restoration was actively promoted.

Decline in water availability in the Southern hemisphere

Driven in part by large-scale atmospheric climate modes, the Southern hemisphere accounts for more than 95% of the recent decline in global water availability, according to a new study. Global land water availability has varied due to climate change and increased human water use. The water availability across the Southern hemisphere decreased across the study period. In the Northern hemisphere, there is negligible change in land water availability.

Question Corner

Water evaporation

Can light make water evaporate without heat?

Evaporation is happening all around us all the time. But our understanding of this process may have been missing a piece all this time. Researchers have been puzzled upon finding that water in their experiments, which was held in a sponge-like material known as a hydrogel, was evaporating at a higher rate than could be explained by the amount of heat, or thermal energy, that the water was receiving. After carrying out a series of new experiments and simulations, a team of researchers at MIT concluded: Under certain conditions, at the interface where water meets air, light can directly bring about evaporation without the need for heat, and it actually does so even more efficiently than heat. In this, the water was held in a hydrogel material, but the researchers suggest that the phenomenon may occur under other conditions as well. The phenomenon might play a role in the formation and evolution of fog and clouds, and thus would be important to incorporate into climate models to improve their accuracy, the researchers say.

Readers may send their questions / answers to questioncorner@thehindu.co.in

What is the status of Kavach installations?

How did two passenger trains in Andhra Pradesh's Vizianagaram district collide? Could it have been avoided?

Maitri Porecha

The story so far:

The deadly collision between two passenger trains in southern India's Vizianagaram district in Andhra Pradesh which killed 14 people and injured fifty persons could have been averted if Traffic Collision Avoidance Systems (TCAS) were in place. East Coast Railway officials indicated that the indigenously developed TCAS called 'Kavach,' was not installed on the route where the Visakhapatnam-Palasa and Visakhapatnam-Rayagada trains collided.

What is TCAS - Kavach?

Kavach is a cab signalling train control system with anti-collision features. Simply put, it plays the role of a watchdog over the existing signalling system. It was developed over a period of 10 years, starting in 2012, by the Indian Railways Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO). Kavach is designed to give out warnings to the loco pilot in case he does not notice the 'red signal,' and instead of stopping, is going to overshoot the signal. After giving warnings on the locopilot's display, if the pilot does not slow down below 15 kilometres per hour, the Kavach system automatically applies brakes to bring the train to a halt.

How is the Kavach system deployed?

In the Kavach set-up, the railway stations along the route where this tech is sanctioned to be deployed are provided with three components.

The Union Railways Ministry attributed the cause of the A.P. accident to the deceased loco pilot, saying it was likely caused by a 'human error'

First is Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology in the tracks. RFID tech uses radio waves to identify people or objects. It uses electromagnetic fields to automatically identify and read information contained in a wireless device from a distance without making physical contact or requiring a line of sight. Secondly, the locomotive, which is the driver's cabin, is provided with RFID readers, computer, and brake interface equipment. And finally, radio infrastructure which are towers and modems are installed at railway stations.

How does Kavach infrastructure work?

The three components of Kavach on rail tracks, locomotives and at railway stations are communicating with each other to monitor train movements, and transmit signals ahead to locomotives. Their function is not affected by visual interferences like hilly geography or haze. There is direct loco-to-loco communication and information regarding location and track IDs are exchanged, in case it is noted that both trains are on the same line. The locomotives have antennas which communicate with towers on railway stations and display warnings to the driver on his monitor.

On February 19, four months before the deadly Balasore accident, Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw claimed to have put his life 'at stake,' during a test ride of Kavach where two trains were moving towards each other on the same track at high speed, but were eventually stopped a 400 meters short of each other as Kavach applied automatic brakes.

Why did the A.P. train accident occur?

The Railways Ministry attributed the cause of the Andhra Pradesh accident to the deceased loco pilot, saying it was likely caused by a 'human error.' Railway officials said that the loco pilot of the Visakhapatnam-Palasa train did not stop or slow down the train despite a red signal given in the block section. Experts say that if the Kavach system was in place it could have helped avoid this accident. "The system would have warned the loco pilot that he was overshooting the red signal, and would have automatically applied the emergency brakes," says Sudhanshu Mani, creator of Vande Bharat Express.

How much does the Kavach system cost?

Deploying Kavach costs ₹50 lakh per kilometre for the Indian Railways. Experts say present coverage for Kavach is only 1,500 km and at this rate, it may take many years to ensure Kavach even on high-density routes as Railways has a total route length of 68,000 kms. "Current Kavach coverage includes the 1,400 km stretch in South Central Railway and 200 to 250 km routes from Delhi to Mumbai and Delhi to Kolkata where it is still under testing in patches, installed in 100 kms here and there, not in continuous sections and not operational," said Mahesh Mangal, former Additional Member, Railway Board and ex-senior executive director at RDSO. Currently the Indian Railways has allotted ₹4,000 crore under the Signalling and Telecom budget head which includes ₹2,000 crore under the Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh (RRSK) fund which implements Kavach. "From this RRSK head, fund allotment for Kavach may be around ₹1,500 crore for FY23-24. From this, we may be able to implement only about 2,500 to 3,000 km of installation during this year," Mr. Mangal further said.

Why did India abstain from the call for truce?

How many countries voted for a resolution calling for an 'immediate, durable and sustained humanitarian truce' in the Israel-Hamas conflict at the United Nations General Assembly? What has been India's historical stance on Palestine?

Suhasini Haidar

The story so far:

On October 26, nearly three weeks after the terror strikes by Hamas on Israel, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) voted on a resolution calling for an "immediate, durable and sustained humanitarian truce" in the hostilities, that was voted for by 120 member countries, while 14 countries voted against it. India was amongst 45 countries that abstained, a vote for which the government has received criticism from the Opposition, with many calling India's vote a "break from the past". Israel, that has conducted an incessant bombardment of the Gaza Strip over the past month, where two million civilians are trapped, rejected the UNGA vote, calling it "despicable".

Why did the government abstain?

Explaining India's vote this week, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said that India's vote was consistent with its stand on terrorism, adding that India takes a strong position on it because Indians are "big victims of terrorism". In particular, government sources said that UNGA resolution (A/ES-10/L.25) lacked an "explicit condemnation" of the October 7 terror attacks by Hamas, in which 1,405 Israelis were killed, and about 240 were taken as hostages by Hamas militants. The UNGA resolution did condemn acts of violence against Palestinian and Israeli civilians "including terrorism", and also called for the immediate unconditional release of the hostages. However, India had wanted more, voting in favour of an amendment authored by Canada, that would have inserted more specific references, that was not passed by the UNGA.

Post 2014, on resolutions critical of Israel, where India would have in the past voted "for", it now began to "abstain", and to even vote against them

Significantly, none of the government's own formal statements since October 7, including India's "Explanation of Vote" delivered after the resolution was passed, have named Hamas directly, nor have readouts of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's conversations with foreign leaders since the attacks referred to Hamas. New Delhi has also not as of yet designated Hamas a terror group, something Israeli Ambassador to India Naor Gilon has demanded.

Balancing act: Results are displayed as the UNGA voted on a resolution calling for a "humanitarian truce" in Gaza on October 26. AP

Is India's vote a break from the past?

India's vote on the UNGA resolution is no doubt a break from its past voting record at the United Nations. Historically, India voted against the partition of Palestine and the creation of a separate state of Israel in 1948, and was the first non-Arab state to recognise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the representative of the people, and to recognise Palestine in 1988, and consistently voted against Israel at the United Nations. However, in the 1990s, especially once India established full diplomatic ties with Israel, its votes at the UN grew more nuanced, abstaining on many votes that directly criticised Israel, or called for international tribunals on its treatment of Palestinians in the Occupied Territories of West Bank and Gaza.

In December 1991, just weeks before India and Israel opened their embassies, India was part of a majority that voted at the UNGA to revoke an earlier resolution that equated Zionism with "racism and racial discrimination". In subsequent decades, India continued to condemn Israeli bombardment and its blockade of Gaza during UN resolutions, but tempered its votes on other anti-Israel resolutions, especially at other forums. After 2014, and more perceptibly post 2019, a more pointed shift has followed, where on resolutions critical of Israel where India would have in the past voted "for", it now began to "abstain", and to even vote against them, if they involved more intrusive international enquiries. The rule however seemed to be to stand with Palestine on all votes relating to Palestinian rights against the occupation and Israeli bombardment. India even raised its annual contribution to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) from a million dollars each year to five million dollars a year. As a result, India voted against the U.S.'s decision to recognise Jerusalem as the Israeli capital and move its embassy there at the UNGA, but abstained from voting on a UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) resolution in 2015 on a report that held more criticism of Israel than Hamas for violence in Gaza. In 2016, India even voted against a UNHRC resolution that called for an International Criminal Court (ICC) investigation into Israeli war crimes, and voted with Israel at the United Nations Economic and Social Council in 2019 in stopping a Hamas-linked NGO from receiving observer status.

Given the wide breadth of these issues, India's record may seem like comparing "apples and oranges". The present shift is therefore best seen by comparing India's vote at the UNGA last month during the 10th emergency special session on Israeli actions, with India's vote at the UNGA at the 9th emergency special session in 2018, where India voted in favour of a resolution that deplored "the use of any excessive, disproportionate and indiscriminate force by the Israeli forces against Palestinian civilians in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and particularly in the Gaza Strip". At the time, Israeli bombardment of Gaza had left more than 220 dead. Now, with more than 9,000 dead, including 3,000 children, with Israeli forces bombing hospitals and refugee camps alike in their search for Hamas leaders and Israeli hostages, India has chosen to abstain.

What does India's stand signify?

India's abstention at the UNGA was welcomed by Israel, whose foreign ministry spokesperson said that although they would have wanted India to vote against the resolution, as U.S., the U.K., and other Israeli allies did, it appreciated the "support". Among countries that abstained were India's other Quad partners Australia and South Korea, and NATO members, including Canada and European countries. However, among the large majority of 120 countries that voted for the resolution were India's South Asian neighbours, including Bhutan, ASEAN countries (except Philippines, that abstained), all other 11-members of the newly extended BRICS grouping, the entire Arab world (except Tunisia) and most countries of the 'Global South'. If India's abstention is a signal of a decided shift in favour of Israel for future votes, it is clear which groupings India would find itself closer to. On the other hand, some have pointed out that India's abstention is not as much a sign of its commitments to any policy, but in line with a growing desire to equivocate on global issues, in order to keep a "tightrope balance" between conflicting sides, both of which India has close ties to. In that sense over the past decade, India has consistently abstained from all resolutions critical of Russia's operations in Ukraine both in 2014 and 2022, a 2016 resolution calling for a ceasefire by Syria, all resolutions from 2017-2022 that condemned the Myanmar military junta for the expulsion of Rohingya and its coup toppling the elected government. This would explain India's stand last month at the UNGA as more of a decision not to antagonise either side in an increasingly polarised world.

What has led to the Maratha quota agitation?

How has Manoj Jarange-Patil, hailing from Maharashtra's drought-prone Marathwada region, brought the Eknath Shinde government to its knees? What has been the history of the quota agitation? How have other OBC groups reacted?

Shoumojit Banerjee

The story so far:

Since late August this year, 41-year-old Maratha quota activist Manoj Jarange-Patil hailing from Maharashtra's drought-prone Marathwada region, has brought the Eknath Shinde government to its knees by demanding a blanket reservation in education and government jobs for all Marathas in the State. Mr. Jarange-Patil withdrew his second hunger fast on November 2 after a government delegation convinced him to grant them more time (till January 2, 2024) to complete the process of granting reservation to the Marathas by giving them Other Backward Class (OBC) certificates and including them in the OBC Kunbi category.

How did it come about?

The immediate trigger for a renascent Maratha quota agitation was a violent fracas on September 1 between protesters and police in the Antarwali Sarati village in Jalna district (400 km from Mumbai), where Mr. Jarange-Patil, hitherto unknown, had been protesting since August 29. The police accused the protestors of starting the violence by pelting stones on security personnel while the agitators claimed that the police had carried out an unwarranted lathi-charge on them, causing grievous injuries.

Jarange-Patil has warned that he would 'choke' the lifelines of all politicians, if the govt. failed to deliver a quota before the second deadline

The issue became swiftly politicised, and despite public apologies by Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and Mr. Shinde, Mr. Jarange-Patil went on an indefinite hunger strike, giving up even drinking water. The activist finally, after Mr. Shinde's repeated cajoling, called off the strike on September 14, by giving the government a 40-day deadline to complete the process for all Marathas to be treated as members of the OBC Kunbi community. The CM announced the setting up of a five-member committee under Justice (retd.) Sandeep Shinde to determine the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for giving OBC certificates to the Marathas.

However, on the expiry of the deadline on October 24, Mr. Jarange-Patil started his second hunger strike. He declared that all politicians be banned from entering villages until the Marathas got their quota.

Dire protest: Activist Manoj Jarange-Patil in Mumbai on October 19. PTI

Who is Manoj Jarange-Patil?

Manoj Jarange-Patil who hails from a family of farmers was once the Youth Congress district chief of Jalna. He resigned this post in 2003 to float his own outfit titled the 'Shivba Sanghatana'. The nature of Mr. Jarange-Patil's protests hark back to 1982 when Annasaheb Patil, a Congress lawmaker from Satara had gone against his party's line by demanding reservation based on economic criteria. He had warned the Congress-led government that he would take his life if the demands were not met and in 1982, had tragically shot himself. Like Annasaheb before him, Mr. Jarange-Patil has earned a reputation for himself as someone who "cannot be managed" by the ruling powers.

His pressure on the government comes at a time when the ruling BJP is politically vulnerable in Maharashtra, struggling to maintain harmony between its fractious coalition allies – CM Shinde's Shiv Sena and Ajit Pawar's Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) faction – and keep its core OBC voter base in Vidarbha intact.

When did the quota agitation start?

The Maratha quota issue made headlines in 2016, when the rape-murder of a minor girl belonging to the Maratha community in Ahmednagar's Kopardi, had spurred a wave of nearly 60 'muk morchas' (silent rallies) by the Marathas which went on for nearly two years across the State. The rallies brought to the fore the community's long-standing claim for Maratha reservation. However, they had been largely peaceful.

In contrast, Mr. Jarange-Patil's agitation during his second hunger strike caused chaos in Marathwada and elsewhere, with activists vandalising vehicles and torching homes of politicians and people connected to them. For a while, these activists blocked State and national highways, disrupting bus services and threatening to throw commute completely off-kilter. The violence has been an indication of the collective rage against both opposition and ruling politicos for their shallow promises over the years. Despite 12 of Maharashtra's 20 Chief Ministers hailing from the Maratha community, a quota has still proved elusive for the Marathas.

In 2018, the Maharashtra legislature had unanimously passed a Bill giving 16% reservation to the Maratha community in jobs and education by according them the status of Socially and Economically Backward Class (SEBC). However, it was eventually scrapped by the Supreme Court in 2021.

Where is it headed?

Mr. Jarange-Patil's insistence of OBC caste certificates has provoked counter protests from the OBC community across Maharashtra, who are fearful of the Marathas eating benefits from their 19% reservation pie. The OBC community has been getting disaffected by the State government's apparent subservience to Mr. Jarange-Patil's demands, with community leaders warning of sustained agitation if it issued Marathas with OBC certificates. The agitation has also had a knock-on effect, with Dhangar community members launching protests across the State, seeking to be included in the Scheduled Tribes (ST) category.

To pacify Mr. Jarange-Patil, CM Shinde and his cabinet have accepted the first report presented by the Justice Shinde committee and issued a Government Resolution, to decide the procedure for granting Kunbi caste certificates to Marathas in the Marathwada region. However, the Shinde-BJP-NCP are in a tight spot, with Mr. Jarange-Patil warning that he would "choke" the lifelines of all politicians, if they failed to deliver a quota before the second deadline.

PROFILES

The vehicle of America's pro-Israel lobby

AIPAC

The powerful American Israel Public Affairs Committee continues to wield heavy influence over U.S. foreign policy even as civilian casualties mount in Israel's onslaught on Gaza, which began after a murderous cross-border raid by Hamas

G. Sampath

PHOTO CREDIT: GETTY IMAGES

In May 2011, U.S. President Barack Obama, in the course of a speech on the Arab Spring, said: "The borders of Israel and Palestine should be based on the 1967 lines with mutually agreed swaps." He was merely stating the official American position, although one rarely articulated publicly by a sitting President. But his words sparked a controversy. Congressmen were inundated with calls from members of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, or AIPAC, the pro-Israel lobbying group. Within three days, Obama had to walk back his statement. He clarified, "The parties themselves – Israelis and Palestinians – will negotiate a border that is different than the one that existed on June 4, 1967. That's what 'mutually agreed-upon swaps' means."

This episode is just a minor one in a long list involving several American Presidents that reflects the role played by AIPAC and its stranglehold over America's West Asia policy. Officially, AIPAC supports a two-state solution and the Oslo Accords. But its actions tend to be in sync with the rightwing Likud party of Israel, which favours untrammelled expansion of Jewish settlements in the occupied territories and has no interest in peace talks. This explains why AIPAC took issue – as did Benjamin Netanyahu – with Obama's reference to a settlement based on 1967 borders. It also explains why, for instance, AIPAC endorsed a bipartisan Bill to move the U.S. embassy from Tel Aviv to the disputed city of Jerusalem.

Today, military, financial and political support for Israel is the lynchpin of America's West Asia policy. As American political scientists John Mearsheimer and Stephen Walt explain in their book, *The Israel Lobby and US Foreign Policy*, such unconditional support may have made sense during the Cold War when Israel was a bulwark against Soviet influence in the region. But the Cold War has ended, and with it, so has any geopolitical justification for unconditional military aid to Israel, which runs to about $3.8 billion a year, making it the largest beneficiary of American largesse.

This level of support may seem to be borne of an understanding that safeguarding Israeli security interests was critical for U.S. foreign policy goals. Alongside this understanding, and until recently, there was also a consensus that the prime obstacle to regional stability was the Israel-Palestine conflict, and resolving it was the key to securing Israel's security and a sustainable peace.

New consensus

However, this old consensus, which drove successive American Presidents, including George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton, to pressure Israel to stop settlement expansion in the occupied territories, has given way to a new one – that the biggest threat to Israeli security and regional stability is Iran. AIPAC has been instrumental in building this consensus, which has clear gains for Israel.

And today, at a moment when the UN Secretary-General and the vast majority of UN member states are calling for a cessation of the bombing campaign over Gaza, the U.S. political establishment has promised more weapons to Israel – a move that caused a State Department official in charge of arms transfers to resign in protest.

How did a lobbying group, representing a religious group (Jews) that comprises less than 3% of the American population, come to wield such influence over the foreign policy of the world's most powerful nation?

AIPAC was founded in 1954 by Isaiah Kenen, an official with the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as the lobbying arm of the American Zionist Committee. Initially named the 'American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs', it was established in response to a crisis in Israel-U.S. relations triggered by the Qibya massacre in 1953 when Israeli troops killed 69 Palestinian villagers.

To avoid the disclosure requirements and restrictions associated with being designated as a 'foreign agent', it was incorporated in 1963 under its current name, as an organisation managed wholly by prosperous Jewish-Americans.

AIPAC has followed a three-pronged strategy since its inception. Firstly, it has focussed on developing a vast number of grassroots activists – a methodical outreach that today extends beyond Jews to evangelical Christians, Afro-Americans and Latinos. Numbering more than 3 million according to its website, these activists are organised into 'caucuses' who meet their Congressional representatives, talk to them, and assess them on their pro-Israel agenda, helping profile every political contender on the basis of their stance on Israel.

Secondly, since it is a lobbying group and cannot directly raise funds, it has created an array of political affairs committees (PACs) which organise campaign funds for pro-Israel candidates, and alternatively, for the rivals of candidates viewed as pro-Palestine or critical of Israel. AIPAC-linked pro-Israel groups are a massive source of campaign funding for American politicians, totalling over $30 billion in 2020.

Lastly, AIPAC has always adopted a bipartisan approach to its pro-Israel agenda, taking care to ensure funding to both parties. Although Jews are traditionally Democratic voters, AIPAC has managed to convince Republican politicians that voting in consonance with the pro-Israel agenda would ensure generous campaign contributions.

Political and financial clout

However, it was not until the 1970s that AIPAC attained the level of political and financial clout needed to influence American foreign policy. And it has only gotten stronger since. From Congressmen and Senators, it has expanded its influence to staffers on Capitol Hill, the White House bureaucracy, the higher echelons of the American media, and the most powerful think tanks, which are populated with pro-Israel experts.

AIPAC has, of course, benefited from the fact that there are no rivals countering its agenda – there is no Arab or Palestinian lobby with anything close to an equivalent influence. It has, in recent times, endorsed attempts to shut down criticisms of Israeli excesses in the occupied territories by discrediting the critics, including attempts to characterise such critics as purveyors of anti-Semitism.

But it is also possible that the influence of AIPAC has been exaggerated. There exists a school of thought which holds that the 'AIPAC factor' may not be the only explanation for the U.S.'s reluctance to hold Israel to the universal standards of human rights accountability. Israel also enjoys strong support among America's conservative Christians, who view contemporary Israel through biblical lenses and for whom the history of Israel is implicated in America's future.

For now, AIPAC's most pressing challenge is the growing sentiment against the escalating civilian casualties in Gaza, which have the potential to bring the Biden administration's unconditional military aid to Israel under increasing scrutiny, not only from progressive Democrats, but also from Republicans who would question the wisdom of continuing to funnel public money into Israeli weaponry.

THE GIST

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- Initially named the 'American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs', it was established in response to a crisis in Israel-U.S. relations triggered by the Qibya massacre in 1953 when Israeli troops killed 69 Palestinian villagers
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Waiting for 'God's kingdom'

Jehovah's Witnesses

The annual three-day convention of the small Christian sect, held in Kochi, Kerala, was hit by explosions on October 29 in which at least three persons were killed

G. Krishnakumar

PHOTO CREDIT: REUTERS

On a sleepy Sunday morning on October 29, Kerala woke up to the devastating multiple explosions at the annual three-day regional convention organised by the Jehovah's Witnesses in the town of Kalamasssery, Kochi. Three persons, including a 12-year-old child, were killed and over 50 injured in the blast. Martin V.D., a 57-year-old resident of Thammanam in Kochi city, surrendered before the Kerala Police a few hours later after he claimed responsibility for the act. The accused, who described himself as a 'non-serious' member of the group for nearly 16 years, said he wanted to teach the sect a lesson as it was "anti-national". He alleged that the "teachings" of the Jehovah's Witnesses congregation "degraded members of other beliefs".

The blasts brought the spotlight on the millenarian Christian group, which does not believe in the Christian Trinity but believes in Jesus as son of God and Jehovah as God. Its roots lay in the 19th century Adventist movement in the U.S. The modern-day organisation was an offshoot of the International Bible Students' Association founded in Pittsburgh by Charles Taze Russell, a Unitarian pastor, in 1872. However, differences within the Bible study group after his death resulted in the formation of several groups, including the Witnesses, in the early 1930s.

The members of the group say they do their best to "imitate" Jesus Christ and is proud to be called Christians. They worship the creator, "whose name is Jehovah" and recognise the Bible as "God's inspired message to humans". However, they do not venerate the cross or any other images. According to the official website of the sect, they are known as Jehovah's Witnesses as they "witness, or talk, about Jehovah God and his Kingdom". The sect has come under the lens of several governments for their refusal to abide by certain laws.

Though the group say it respected governments and their national symbols, it stayed away from participating in such ceremonies on biblical grounds. They do not accept blood transfusions stating that "both the Old and New Testaments clearly command us to abstain from blood". The Witnesses believe that Armageddon is imminent and early establishment of God's kingdom will prevail soon.

Evangelical work

Various Christian denominations do not consider them as a Christian sect while mostly terming them a "cult" aligned closer to the Jewish faith. The group does not approve of traditional priesthood. They do not celebrate Christmas because of its "pagan origins". They are best known for their door-to-door evangelical work and they have no political affiliations. The Jehovah's Witnesses had faced persecution under the Nazis.

The group's practice of abstaining from singing the National Anthem had its reverberations in Kerala when the management of a school in Kidangoor, Kottayam district expelled three children on July 26, 1986 on the ground that they refused to recite the National Anthem during the morning assemblies. The late V.J. Immanuel, their father and a retired college teacher, who was an ardent preacher of the sect, challenged the decision before the Supreme Court, which found that their expulsion was in violation Articles 19 and 25 of the Constitution. In India, Jehovah's Witnesses has been present since 1905. Though it established an office in 1926 in Mumbai, the legal registration was obtained only in 1978.

The group, which has its headquarters in Warwick, New York, says it has around 8.6 million followers worldwide. In India, there are over 57,000 members, while the headcount of followers in Kerala is around 15,000. It had hit the headlines in March this year after a 35-year-old suspect, believed to be a former member, opened fire at a Jehovah's centre in Hamburg, Germany killing seven people. The members say they do not engage in forcible conversion as every individual has the right to accept their message or reject it. They have left it to the public to decide on what they called allegations by persons, who have no remorse in killing innocent people over their teachings and practices.

Rise of the daughter

Saima Wazed

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's daughter faced greater scrutiny in the run-up to the election for the post of the WHO's regional director for South-East Asia

Arun Devnath

ILLUSTRATION: SREEJITH R. KUMAR

Her victory came after a spell of sharp media attention, criticism and allegations of nepotism. Born to a well-known political family in Bangladesh, Saima Wazed is now set to lead the World Health Organization (WHO) in South-East Asia as its regional director for five years.

She secured eight out of 10 votes against Shambhu Prasad Acharya, a senior WHO official proposed by Nepal, Bangladesh's neighbour. Ms. Wazed, who advocates mental health policy, will succeed Poonam Khetrapal Singh, an Indian national, who became the first woman to assume the office of WHO regional director for South-East Asia in 2014. In 2018, WHO member states elected Khetrapal Singh for a second five-year term.

After Bangladesh's proposal became public, some media outlets turned the spotlight on her raising questions of nepotism as her mother, Sheikh Hasina, is the Prime Minister of Bangladesh. But Ms. Wazed argued that those articles ignored her professional credentials. "The overt and intentional erasure of my experience, and the attendant reduction of me to being simply my mother's daughter, is sexism and must be called out as such," she said in an opinion piece in response to the media criticism.

Ms. Wazed also resists the perception that she has always lived a life of privilege. Despite being born in Bangladesh as the granddaughter of independence leader Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, she wrote on her website, "my earliest memories were that of growing up in India as a refugee". "Trauma, secrecy, heightened concerns with security while always being aware I was not like everyone else, were second nature to me."

Ms. Wazed portrayed herself as someone assimilating into diverse cultures, saying she spoke Hindi fluently as a child with neighbours and friends, spoke Bangla at home, and learnt English in school. "Celebrating Diwali and Holi with others, and watching my mother pray namaz were typical for us," she said.

Her young adult years were spent in Florida, living, learning, and working among what she said was a "melting pot" of European, Asian, Caribbean, and South American cultures that expanded my knowledge of family dynamics, religious, and socio-cultural norms and practices".

Additional leverage

There's no denying that 15 years of the Awami League rule in Bangladesh in three straight terms led by her mother gave her leverage for work on advocacy and policy development in the health sector. That enabled her to better understand the economic and political issues at play in the health sector. Ahead of the WHO election, she attended an array of meetings with global leaders, often with her mother, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and U.S. President Joe Biden, on the sidelines of the G20 summit in New Delhi in September. She also attended the BRICS summit in Johannesburg in August, where she met China's President Xi Jinping.

The WHO election generated sharp attention from regional and international news outlets expressing alarm at her candidacy and doubt about her suitability for the role. In response, Ms. Wazed claimed that the arguments in those articles were based on "damaging biases" and perpetuated "harmful stigmas and stereotypes".

"While I accept it is inevitable that there will be greater scrutiny of me due to my mother's position, what is unfortunate is the erasure of my years of work, study and accomplishments," Ms. Wazed wrote in the opinion piece.

Despite being in the public domain, she contended, the articles avoid mentioning her work with Chatham House's Global Health Programme or its Commission for Universal Health. She mentions that she has been an adviser to the WHO's Director General on mental health and autism, or that she has been a member of the WHO's Expert Advisory Panel on Mental Health for almost a decade. Now with the storm dissipating, Ms. Wazed will have to return to her remit to continue to work for the "most vulnerable" not only in Bangladesh, but in the region as a whole. "I will not back down," she said.

INBRIEF

BoB Q2 net jumps 28% to ₹4,253 cr. as bad loans decline

Bank of Baroda (BoB) reported a 28% rise in net profit to ₹4,253 crore for the second quarter ended September on the back of a decline in bad loans and rise in interest income. Total income rose to ₹32,033 crore from ₹23,080 crore, BoB said in a filing. Interest income surged to ₹27,862 crore (₹21,254 crore). Gross non-performing assets (NPAs) slid to 3.32% (5.31%) while net NPAs fell to 0.76% (1.16%). Capital adequacy ratio improved to 15.30% (15.25%). PTI

Vedanta posts Q2 net loss of ₹1,783 cr. on new tax rate

Anil Agarwal-led Vedanta Ltd. on Saturday reported a consolidated net loss of ₹1,783 crore in the second quarter ended September, citing an one-time exceptional item in its balance sheet as a result of adoption of new tax rate. The firm had posted a consolidated net profit of ₹1,808 crore in the year-earlier period, Vedanta Ltd. said in a BSE filing. Executive Director Arun Misra said the net loss was on account of a one-time write down the company had taken. PTI

BYJU's core operational loss in FY22 narrows to ₹2,253 crore

Edtech firm Think and Learn Private Ltd., which operates under the brand name of BYJU's, on Saturday reported narrowing of operational loss in core business to ₹2,253 crore for the 2021-22 fiscal. The EBITDA, or the operational loss in core business, was down from ₹2,406 crore in the year-earlier period, the firm said. The core business comprises K12 offering, application and tuition centres. BYJU'S said core business revenue grew 2.3 times to ₹3,569 crore. PTI

'Oligopolies' control over rare earths is key green transition snag'

Funding to help developing countries could also be 'weaponised', warns CEA Nageswaran; Urges investors in green transitions to abjure greed

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

Countries' energy transition efforts face significant uncertainty due to the oligopolistic control over mining and processing of rare earth elements that were critical to scale up green technologies, Chief Economic Advisor V. Anantha Nageswaran observed, adding that external funding to help developing countries move away from fossil fuels could also be potentially 'weaponised'

The CEA also urged investors in developing countries' green transitions to not let greed dominate the creation of public goods and expect to 'have their cake and eat it too' by pushing for higher returns on investments even as they sought risk mitigation interventions.

Stressing that public investments must play a major role in green transitions, he pointed out that major transformation efforts such as post-World War II reconstruction, space exploration and the development of the Internet were driven by the public sector for a reason.

"Public investment in carbon sequestration, carbon sinks, battery storage technologies and green hydrogen will obviate problems with intellectual property rights and help assert the global public nature of solutions," Mr. Nageswaran said at The Energy Transition Dialogues hosted by Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet earlier this week.

Hurdles to going green

CEA Nageswaran cautions against the potential weaponisation of external financing of developing countries' energy transition efforts

- Stresses need for public funding of green transitions including in carbon sinks, green hydrogen
- Public investment in green tech will obviate problems with intellectual property rights
- Countries must be allowed to 'own their climate agenda' while focusing on economic growth

'Market's limitations'

Emphasising that market-based solutions to mitigate carbon emissions had limitations, Mr. Nageswaran cautioned against the temptation to "promote and push capital market liberalisation in countries to attract private capital for energy transition since investment needs are huge".

"Capital market developments... usually keep pace with [countries'] economic evolution. Seldom do they precede economic evolution. When forced, the economies become over-financialised and macroeconomic consequences follow," he said, mooting that countries be allowed to "own their climate agenda" while focusing on economic growth.

"When countries lack resources, they become reliant on external sources, which can lead to external dependence and vulnerabilities. In such cases, funding can be weaponised. Therefore, it is important to support countries in prioritising economic growth rather than penalising them for doing so," he noted, stressing that such nations would find it difficult to deliver on climate security without growth.

"A fact that will increasingly determine the pace and viability of this concern with green is the access to rare earth elements and critical minerals, without which the green technologies cannot be scaled up. The problem is that there is oligopolistic control over... these minerals," Mr. Nageswaran observed.

Bank of India Q2 net up 52% on interest income

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Bank of India (BOI) reported standalone second-quarter net profit increased 52% year-on-year (YoY) to ₹1,458 crore on account of rise in Net Interest Income (NII) and improvement in asset quality.

Operating profit during the quarter ended September 30, increased 11% YoY to ₹3,756 crore. NII increased by 13% YoY to ₹5,740 crore and NIM (Global) improved by 4 bps YoY to 3.08%, the bank said.

NPAs slide

The Gross NPA ratio slid by 267 bps YoY and Net NPA ratio by 38 bps. Provision Coverage Ratio (PCR) improved by 62 bps.

The bank's global business increased by 9.25% while the global deposits increased by 8.68% YoY.

The bank said it's advances increased by 10% YoY. While retail credit grew by 14.65% YoY, Agriculture credit grew by 10.82% YoY and MSME credit grew by 10.82% YoY.

CASA deposits increased by 6.08% YoY and CASA ratio stood at 43.13%.

SBI Q2 profit rises 8% to ₹14,330 crore as NII climbs by 12.3%

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

State Bank of India (SBI) reported second-quarter standalone net profit grew 8% to ₹14,330 crore, aided by lower bad loan provisions and a 12.3% increase in Net Interest Income (NII) to ₹39,500 crore.

However, the bank's Net Interest Margin (NIM) eased by 12 basis points (bps) to 3.43% due to an increase in the cost of deposits, SBI Chairman Dinesh Khara said while announcing the results at a briefing.

The lender's operating profit also declined by 8.07% YoY to ₹19,417 crore.

He said the bank's loan loss provision shrank by 9.75% YoY to ₹1,815 crore.

The bank reported credit growth of 12.4% with domestic advances increasing by 13.2%.

Domestic advances growth was driven by SME advances (22.8%) followed by retail personal advances which grew by 15.7%. Agri and corporate loans registered growth of 14.8% and 6.62%, respectively. The bank's deposits grew at 11.9%, out of which CASA deposits grew by 4.91%.

The bank's asset quality improved as Gross NPA ratio at 2.55% improved by 97 bps. Net NPA ratio at 0.64% improved by 16 bps.

Provision coverage ratio (PCR) at 75.5% declined by 248 bps. Slippage ratio for the quarter increased by 13 bps YoY and stands at 0.46%, Mr. Khara said.

He said the outlook on domestic activities was brightening on account of

Dinesh Kumar Khara

sustained buoyancy in services, consumer and wages optimism, public spending on infrastructure and underlying strength of financial sector's balance sheet.

Upbeat outlook

"Consumer confidence has improved with uptick in most of the macroeconomic conditions... growth is expected to get momentum through the rest of the year, especially from impetus spending," he said, adding "as demand for credit continues, we expect credit and deposit may grow by 16-17% in FY2024."

On the outlook, Mr. Khara said: "Normally... in the busy season we see an uptick as far as credit growth is concerned. We expect to grow at around 13-14%. We are seeing growth in all the sectors, right from the retail to SME and agriculture."

Commenting on the rise of unsecured loans at lenders, Mr. Khara said, "I still maintain my stance that our unsecured book is better than the secured loans. Nearly 86% of our unsecured book is given to those who are maintaining salary account with us, and they are all from the government sector".

TI aims to homologate e-tractor in Q1 2024

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Vellayan Subbiah

TI Clean Mobility Pvt. Ltd., a subsidiary of Tube Investments of India Ltd. (TII), is planning to gets its electric tractor homologated in Q1 of CY24 and start selling in Q1 of FY25, said TII Executive Vice Chairman Vellayan Subbiah.

TICMPL has started setting up facilities for the manufacture of electric tractors for the agriculture segment in Chennai.

TICMPL will submit the first model during January-March, which is a 27-horsepower equivalent for homologation. And then it will go into 'start of production' in April-June.

Regarding the recently-unveiled Montra electric super auto, TICMPL MD K.K. Paul said at present it was facing supply chain challenges.

"I think it is getting resolved. We are working very closely with the concerned vendors to get the PCB replaced. So, our central quality, R&D and the business, they're all working together with the vendor to see the PCB is met and we are making substantial progress," he said.

Pantaloons OnLoop debuts in Bengaluru

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Sangeeta Pendurkar

Pantaloons, Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Ltd.'s (ABFRL) fashion brand, has embarked on a tech-driven customer experience by debuting a new retail format, Pantaloons OnLoop.

The first store opened in Bengaluru on Nov. 3. The 70,000 sq.ft store shelves more than 50 fashion brands across apparel, footwear, watches, sunglasses and cosmetics.

The store entrance has a merchandise dash board where customers can surf for their choice and the sales staff brings their pick to the trial room. The trial rooms have scanners on which customers can scan merchandise and request for a different size, which would be brought to them, cutting out the chore of dressing up to exit the booth.

"Pantaloons OnLoop is the next rendition for distinctive retail experiences, said Sangeeta Pendurkar, CEO, Pantaloons. "It is a go-to destination for Gen Z seeking, lifestyle, fashion, fun and food under the same roof," she added.

Weak rouble troubles CUMI's Russian subsidiary VAW, German arm to log loss

N. Anand
CHENNAI

Carborundum Universal Ltd.'s (CUMI) Russian arm Volzhsky Abrasive Works (VAW) posted a contraction in sales in rupee terms in the first half of FY24 on account of a weak Russian rouble, said CUMI MD Sridharan Rangarajan.

"It is important to bring the perspective of the war here," Mr. Rangarajan said during an earnings call.

"VAW grew in H1 in rouble terms 24% (consolidated basis). However, in Rupee terms, this turned out to be a de-growth of 6%."

According to him, the conversion rate of rouble to Indian rupee during H1 of FY23 was 1.24 and in H1 of FY24, it stood at 0.94 whereas the exchange rate remained the same. The overall growth of CUMI in H1 would be 9.6%-10%.

He also pointed out that VAW's performance had been 'good' in local currency terms and delivered its highest-ever quarterly sales of rouble 2.5 billion in Q2 against rouble 1.86 million a year-earlier. In H1 sales grew by 24% to rouble 4.9 billion.

Operations were running well and there had been an increase in sales volume compared with last year – 4% in silicon carbide, 18% in abrasives and 10% in refractories. Also, price realisations were better compared with the previous years, he said.

Different story

"When converted to INR, the story looks a little different and shows downward performance because of a stronger rouble during Q2 of the last year where it was at one rouble equivalent to 1.33, whereas it has become much weaker at 1.01 in Q1 FY24 and 0.88 in Q2 FY24," he added.

"We delivered a profit of rouble 418 million, same as during Q1 of the current year against rouble 236 million during Q2 over the last year," he said.

Stating that VAW was able to collect all its receivables, he said it continued to be debt-free and the outlook remained positive.

Meanwhile, South African subsidiary Foskor Zirconia posted lower sales on postponement of orders by top three customers and price pressure from Chinese supplies.

In FY24, CUMI expects its German arm Awuko Abrasives to post about €2.5 million in losses and achieve break-even by FY25. CUMI had incurred a capex of ₹97 crore so far.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,P.R.E DIVISION, KOPPAL
No .EE/PRED/KPL/KKRDB/Quotation/2023-24/ 1429
Date: 03.11.2023

INVITATION FOR QUOTATIONS

Quotations are invited for upgradation / providing basic facilities to Government First Grade Colleges and Government Polytechnic Colleges, sanctioned under KKRDB Mega -MACRO Schemes for the year 2022-23/2023-24. Interested agencies may attend this office on or before 13.11.2023 to get information about specific specifications. Quotations of different materials should be submitted to this office by 15.11.2023 before 4:30 PM in sealed covers. Further information may be obtained from the office of the undersigned during working hours and through contact Nos. 9480736641.

The under signed reserves right to reject, withdraw any or all quotations at any stage without ascertaining any reasons.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, P.R.E Division, Koppal.
DIPR/Koppal/220/KSMCA/2023-24

RURAL DRINKING WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION DIVISION, CHIKMAGALUR.
Tender Notice No.: 22/2023-24/ Dtd.: 27.10.2023

Notice Inviting Tender

Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Chikkamagalur invites Tender through K.P.P. Portal related to 18 works of N.R. Pura & Koppa Taluk of Chikkamagaluru District. Minimum amount of works is Rs. 82.46 lakhs and Maximum amount of works is Rs. 187.79 lakhs. Details regarding undertaking or having implemented work as per Standard Tender Document KW-3 & 4 should be attached. Contract can be awarded to contractors only if they have the minimum qualifications as mentioned in Act 1.Tender for works should be submitted through e-procurement from 27.10.2023 to 09.11.2023 up to 5.30 PM. Tender will be opened on 10.11.2023 at 5.30 PM. In case this day is a holiday the next day will be considered. Notification can be read on https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in For further details the case worker can be contacted during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Chikkamagalur

DIPR/ckm/No.93/ksmca/23-24/717

Government of Karnataka
Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Finance Department,
Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru
No.: FD 03 BMB 2023 Date: 02.11.2023

KARNATAKA GOVERNMENT STOCK (SECURITIES)

1. Aggregate Amount : Total Rs. 3000 Crore (10 Year Tenure)
2. Method of Issue : By auction, through PDO, RBI, Mumbai (Fort)
3. Date of auction : November 07, 2023

Government of Karnataka invites subscription to the above securities. Copies of the Notification and Application forms may be obtained from PDO, RBI, Bengaluru. Non-competitive bidding facility has been introduced by RBI to encourage participation of retail investors. The Government stock up to 10% of the notified amount of the sale will be allotted to eligible individuals and institutions. Sample Tender Forms and the revised scheme of Non-competitive bidding facility is available on the website **www.rbi.org.in**

DIPR/DD-C.P/1946/KSMCA/2023-24

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Zone, Dasarahalli Division, MEI Layout, Hesaraghatta Main Road, Bagalagunte, T.Dasarahalli, Bengaluru - 560 073
No: BBMP/EE/DD/Ten/08/2023-24 Date: 04.11.2023

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(One Tender Document System) (Through **GOK KPP Portal** only)

The Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, BBMP Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for the construction of works detailed in the table below. **(KW-01 & KW-02)**

Sl. No.	Name of the Works/Category	Amount Put To Tender (₹. in Lakhs)	EMD (in ₹.)
1	Drilling of Borewell and Erection of Pumpset, Electrification and Pipeline work at Chikkasandra Village & Surrounding Areas in Ward No-12 Shettyhalli Sub Division Call-3 (Others)	18.43	50,000/-
2	Drilling of Borewell and Erection of Pumpset, Electrification and Pipeline work at Shettyhalli Village & Surrounding Areas in Ward No-12 Shettyhalli Sub Division Call-3 (Others)	24.58	50,000/-
3	Drilling of Borewell and Erection of Pumpset, Electrification and Pipeline work at MHR Layout, NHM Layout, Kirloskar Layout & Navy Layout at Sidedahalli Village & Surrounding Areas in Ward No-14 T. Dasarahalli Sub Division Call-3 (Others)	30.72	61,500/-
4	Drilling of Borewell and Erection of Pumpset, Electrification and Pipeline work at Siddeshwara Layout, Sidedahalli, Soundarya Layout & Meenakshi Layout at Sidedahalli Village & Surrounding Areas in Ward No-14 T. Dasarahalli Sub Division Call-3 (Others)	30.72	61,500/-
5	Removal of Unauthorised Structures/ Buildings in Dasarahalli Zone (For the Year 2023-24) Call-2 (Others)	40.35	81,000/-

Calendar of Events : (1) Tender documents may be downloaded in the e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka from **09.11.2023**. (2) Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal on or before **18.11.2023** upto **4:00** pm. (3) Financial Bids will be opened in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, BBMP on **20.11.2023** at **4:30** pm. (4) This tender notice can also be seen on the BBMP Website: **www.bbmp.gov.in**. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Executive Engineer - Dasarahalli Division

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SIXTH BOWLER

Dravid says Kohli can roll his arm over with a touch of humour

K.R. DEEPAK

Hardik's absence and the lack of a sixth bowler in the XI came up for discussion in the pre-match presser on Saturday. India coach Dravid with a touch of humour referred to Kohli and quipped: "We have our wrong-footed inswinging menace. The crowd is also behind him, the other day it almost convinced us to give him an over."

STRATEGIC

The need to have a back-up the reason for picking Prasidh: Dravid

K.R. DEEPAK

India's strategy of playing five main bowlers and the need to have enough back-up was cited as the reason behind picking Prasidh Krishna as a replacement for Hardik. Coach Dravid said: "After Hardik was injured, we played with three fast bowlers, two spinners. If there is illness or injury, then we need a back-up for that combination."

WORLD-CLASS ATTACK

We're going to have our A-game up against India, says Bavuma

K.R. DEEPAK

South Africa captain Temba Bavuma isn't too worried about the Indian bowlers coming to the Eden Gardens on the back of a mind-boggling performance against Sri Lanka."You respect the strength and threats they bring. It's obviously a world-class attack in their conditions. We're going to have to have our 'A' game up."

ROLE MODELS

SA skipper taking inspiration from World Cup-winning rugby team

K.R. DEEPAK

The South African team would want to emulate its country's rugby outfit, which recently won the World Cup. Skipper Temba Bavuma said, "We came here with the aim of getting to the end... we've obviously taken note of everything that is happening outside the team — the success of the rugby team back home."

It's unstoppable force vs. immovable object

Rohit's Men in Blue have won all their seven matches in convincing fashion while Bavuma's side has been invincible batting first, running up gargantuan totals

ODI WORLD CUP

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
KOLKATA

As old yellow taxis with their 'no refusal' signage rumbled on roads around the iconic Eden Gardens, the South Africans trained inside a venue where they have a historic connect. During the post-apartheid era, India welcomed back South Africa into the cricketing fold and on November 10, 1991, Clive Rice's men tussled with the Men in Blue.

Kolkata showered unbridled affection upon the visitors and even though South Africa lost that ODI, it has built a fine legacy over the years. An ICC title remains elusive but in the current World Cup, after India, South Africa has been in terrific form despite the loss against the Netherlands.

Sunday's clash between the host and Temba Bavuma's men, is perhaps the biggest game of this premier championship even if India against Pakistan had an emotional resonance in Ahmedabad.

Leading into this key battle, South Africa has flourished while batting first and defeated Sri Lanka (by 102 runs), Australia (134), England (229), Bangladesh (149) and New Zealand (190). Quinton de Kock, with a tally of 545 runs, has been in remarkable touch and Aiden Markram and Rassie van der Dussen too have contributed while Heinrich Klaasen has flexed his batting muscle.

Key personnel: Much will depend on the prolific Kohli and swashbuckling Surya in the high-octane clash against the Proteas. K.R. DEEPAK

Nervy issue

However, chasing has been a nervy issue as evident in the loss to the Netherlands and the narrow one-wicket victory over Pakistan. Among the bowlers, Marco Jansen, Gerald Coetzee, Keshav Maharaj and Kagiso Rabada have been among the wickets.

If the usual India angle involved its batters against rival bowlers, the converse would be the theme now as much would hinge on how the pace trio of Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj and Mohammed Shami get through South Africa's batting order.

Striding in undefeated, Rohit Sharma's men have taken everything in their stride. Even if Saturday morning's news-break involving seamer Prasidh Krishna replacing an injured Hardik Pandya meant that the unit's all-round balance turned askew, the management has obviously embraced the aggressive 'six batters, five bowlers' theory.

The recent triumph over Sri Lanka at Mumbai, also ushered in smooth runs from Shubman Gill and Shreyas Iyer. With Rohit and Virat Kohli being the lead stars, India's batting has gained heft over the last few weeks. K.L. Rahul has looked fine and Suryakumar Yadav has slotted in well.

Business end

With a semifinal berth sealed, India is heading towards the business end of the World Cup. It is a stage that turned murky both in 2015 and 2019, but Rohit believes in taking one step at a time. A theory that his colleagues are equally invested in as they size up South Africa while the mild drizzle here over the last few days is expected to be a gentle intervention at best.

The teams (from):

India: Rohit Sharma (Capt.), K.L. Rahul (wk), Virat Kohli, Shubman Gill, Shreyas Iyer, Suryakumar Yadav, Ishan Kishan, Ravindra Jadeja, R. Ashwin, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Mohammed Siraj, Shardul Thakur, Kuldeep Yadav and Prasidh Krishna.

South Africa: Temba Bavuma (Capt.), Aiden Markram, Rassie van der Dussen, Reeza Hendricks, David Miller, Marco Jansen, Andile Phehlukwayo, Quinton de Kock (wk), Heinrich Klaasen, Gerald Coetzee, Keshav Maharaj, Lungi Ngidi, Tabraiz Shamsi, Kagiso Rabada and Lizaad Williams.

Umpires: Paul Reiffel and Kumar Dharmasena; **Third umpire:** Chris Brown; **Match referee:** Andrew Pycroft.

Match starts at 2 p.m.

Hardik out of WC, Prasidh roped in

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
KOLKATA

Hardik Pandya has been ruled out of the World Cup. The all-rounder suffered a left ankle injury in the game against Bangladesh at Pune and subsequently he was away at Bengaluru's National Cricket Academy, trying to assess the extent of the niggle and also chart a comeback.

However, with his recovery being delayed, seamer Prasidh Krishna has been picked as Hardik's replacement following an approval from the event's technical committee. As an all-rounder, Hardik was vital to the Indian playing eleven's balance, chipping runs, bowling some overs and always being electric in the field.

Following his injury, India dropped Shardul Thakur and fielded Mohammed Shami and Suryakumar Yadav, and went ahead with a six batters and five bowlers combination.

No part-time bowlers

So far this policy has worked for the Men in Blue but the red flag would be if any of the bowlers pick up an injury or bowl a bad spell, then the management has no part-time bowler to lean on even if Virat Kohli does turn his arm over a bit.

Today's match

INDIA vs. SOUTH AFRICA
Kolkata, 2 p.m.

EYE ON THE SKY
High 31°c
Low 23°c
Partly cloudy
Source: IMD

H2H IN ODIs

	M	India	South Africa	NR
Overall	90	37	50	3
In India	31	17	14	0
In World Cup	5	2	3	0

1992: South Africa won by six wickets (round-robin), Adelaide
1999: South Africa won by four wickets (group stage), Hove
2011: South Africa won by three wickets (group stage), Nagpur
2015: India won by 130 runs (group stage), Melbourne
2019: India won by six wickets (round-robin), Southampton

Have to play good cricket for longer periods, says Bavuma

Santadeep Dey
KOLKATA

South Africa captain Temba Bavuma, wary of the challenges posed by a fiery Indian bowling attack, feels the presence of five bowlers in Rohit Sharma's side may be something that could be exploited at the Eden Gardens on Sunday.

"They obviously only have five bowlers. They can be put under pressure if one of their bowlers is not on their day. But yeah, probably we respect their bowling attack a bit more than the others. We understand that we're going to have to play good cricket for longer periods," said Bavuma.

Bavuma, who was yet to have a look at the surface when the media conference got underway, said his side would look to field two front-line spinners if the conditions favoured a bit of turn.

"If the wicket assists the spinners, you'll definitely see those two (Keshav Maharaj and Tabraiz Shamsi). We saw what Keshav did the previous game (4/46 vs New Zealand). We saw Shamsi as well in Chennai...what he did coming off the bench (4/60 vs Pakistan).

"There's no additional pressure on those two guys. They'll just do what they've been doing, and we'll back them all the way," Bavuma said.

We are just looking at the match ahead, not thinking too far ahead: Dravid

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
KOLKATA

Breaking down the World Cup campaign to one game at a time has defined India's successful path so far. The theory was once again elaborated upon by coach Rahul Dravid in the pre-match press conference at the Eden Gardens here on Saturday.

"We are just looking at the match ahead. We have a league match to play and South Africa is a good team. We are not thinking too far ahead and where this campaign will end. We are focusing on what we can do and we have been doing well so far and if the other team still outplays us, well we will shake hands and move on," Dravid said ahead of Sunday's clash against South Africa.

The coach was happy with the way Shubman Gill, Shreyas Iyer and Suryakumar Yadav batted recently. "It was unfortunate that Shubman picked up dengue and missed in the beginning. He did well to comeback and score. As for Shreyas we always knew that he had the ability, just that he was not converting his starts but in the game against Sri Lanka, he realised that he had a platform and he went big. Suryakumar has also done well, he was able to switch gears and slow down when wickets fell and, at the same time, he is the kind of player who could add quick runs in the end," Dravid said.

In all the talk about India's speedsters, Dravid felt that the spinners have gone under the radar. "Ravindra Jadeja has done really well, bowling tight, getting us those crucial runs and he has always been a brilliant fielder. Kuldeep Yadav too has bowled well but I think both have gone slightly under the radar and not got the credit that they should have," the coach said.

Dravid happy with the way Gill, Shreyas and Suryakumar batted recently

Taking stock: Gill and Shardul are keen to figure out what the Eden surface has to offer. K.R. DEEPAK

Having a ball: De Kock, with four tons in the tournament, and Maharaj, with 11 wickets, have had a fine run. K.R. DEEPAK

India-South Africa contest at Eden set to be match of the tournament

Sunil Gavaskar

The last time there was a clash between the table toppers, India beat New Zealand quite comfortably. It might not be the same when they meet South Africa at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata, for South Africa looks as good an all-round team as India is.

If anything, the South African batting line-up has been more consistent than the Indian one. Quinton de Kock already has four hundreds under his belt in the tournament and is looking to equal Rohit Sharma's record of five centuries in one edition of the tournament. How he and Rassie van der Dussen cope up with the Indian new ball attack is going to be the key to the contest as also how Markram and Klaasen deal with the spinners Kuldeep Yadav and Ravindra Jadeja in the middle overs.

Hardik Pandya missing the tournament is a big blow to India because he was a two in one player who lent incredible balance to the team and offered the captain so many options.

His injury opened the doors to Suryakumar Yadav and Mohammed Shami. While Surya hasn't quite got the overs to make the impact, Shami has grabbed the opportunity with both hands capturing two 'fifers' and one four-wicket haul to mitigate the absence of Hardik.

Yes, the concern remains as to what if one of the five bowlers gets injured or has a bad day. Hopefully that won't be the case. With Siraj's getting back to wicket-taking ways in a fiery way against Sri Lanka and Bumrah giving nothing from his end, it was a complete lock-down as far as Sri Lanka was concerned.

South Africa also have a potent new-ball attack with Marco Jansen getting the ball to swing and bounce. Ngidi is bowling tight lines and Rabada, with that 'oh so smooth' run-up reminiscent of the great Michael Holding, is continuing the pressure along with the spirited Gerald Coetzee.

The hard-working and underestimated Keshav Maharaj is picking up wickets regularly; so the Proteas have a testing bowling attack. They may have an advantage in their fielding, but if Rohit Sharma gets going then it hardly matters.

The Eden could well have the match of the tournament.

(Professional Management Group)

Spin magic: Zampa stifled and struck in tandem in his brilliant spell of 10-0-21-3. VIJAY SONEJI

Australia hands England the knockout punch

Cummins' men consign Buttler & Co. to a sixth defeat as Labuschagne and Zampa fashion a 33-run victory; Malan and Stokes' half-centuries to no avail for the defending champion

ODI WORLD CUP

Ashwin Achal
AHMEDABAD

Right through the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup, England has found ways to lose. This pattern was repeated here on Saturday, with the defending champion stumbling to a 33-run loss against Australia.

A sixth defeat in seven matches marks the end of the defending champion England's hopes of reaching the knockout rounds. Australia, on the other hand, placed one foot in the semifinal door.

Needless hoick

Chasing a manageable 287, England had the upper hand at 103 for two. Dawid Malan (50, 64b, 4x4, 1x6) was in good nick, keeping the required rate in check. A needless hoick, however, cost Malan his wicket. It is tough to understand why the southpaw chose a big hit when his team desperately needed him to stick around.

Malan's departure scrambled the mind of his partner Jos Buttler. A couple of overs later, the captain danced down the track to leg-spinner Adam Zampa and completely mishit a lofted drive to long-off.

Malan and Buttler both strayed well away from the gameplan – a symptom of England's woes in this tournament.

Ben Stokes started slowly, and only came to life when Travis Head came on with his part-time off-breaks. Stokes hit a few clean shots to raise the spirits of the dressing room, but given the unit's propensity to self-destruct, there was a lingering feeling that the joy was short-lived. The premonition proved right as Stokes took on Zampa – the best bowler on view – and finished second best. With the best batters back in the hut, England had no way back.

And to think that England started the day with a big advantage, having won the toss. Buttler was happy to chase, given that conditions at the Narendra Modi Stadium gets better for batting as the game progresses.

Australia fired in spurts. Openers Travis Head and David Warner got out to poor shots, leaving the tried and tested pair of Steve Smith (44, 52b, 3x4) and Marnus Labuschagne (71, 83b, 7x4) to steady the ship.

Cameron Green (47, 52b, 5x4) and Marcus Stoinis (35, 32b, 3x4, 2x6), drafted into the eleven in the place of Glenn Maxwell and Mitch Marsh, did all the hard work as the innings headed to the death overs. Green then lost his stumps attempting a paddle sweep, handing the momentum back to England. Tailender Adam Zampa's 19-ball 29 rescued Australia from a precarious 247 for eight. Zampa's exploits were made possible by poor bowling, and soon it was the England batters' turn to lose the plot.

Points table

	M	W	L	PTS	NRR
India (Q)	7	7	0	14	2.102
South Africa (Q)	7	6	1	12	2.290
Australia	7	5	2	10	0.924
New Zealand	8	4	4	8	0.398
Pakistan	8	4	4	8	0.036
Afghanistan	7	4	3	8	-0.330
Sri Lanka	7	2	5	4	-1.162
Netherlands	7	2	5	4	-1.398
Bangladesh (E)	7	1	6	2	-1.446
England (E)	7	1	6	2	-1.504

Q: Qualified | **E:** Eliminated

SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA

Travis Head c Root b Woakes 11 *(10b, 1x4)*, David Warner c Willey b Woakes 15 *(16b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Steve Smith c Moeen b Adil Rashid 44 *(52b, 3x4)*, Marnus Labuschagne lbw b Wood 71 *(83b, 7x4)*, Josh Inglis c Moeen b Adil Rashid 3 *(6b)*, Cameron Green b Willey 47 *(52b, 5x4)*, Marcus Stoinis c Bairstow b Livingstone 35 *(32b, 3x4, 2x6)*, Pat Cummins c Malan b Wood 10 *(13b, 1x4)*, Mitchell Starc c Moeen b Woakes 10 *(13b)*, Adam Zampa c Buttler b Woakes 29 *(19b, 4x4)*, Josh Hazlewood (not out) 1 *(1b)*; Extras (lb-6, w-4): 10; Total (in 49.3 overs): 286.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-11 (Head, 1.4 overs), 2-38 (Warner, 5.4), 3-113 (Smith, 21.4), 4-117 (Inglis, 23.1), 5-178 (Labuschagne, 32.6), 6-223 (Green, 40.4), 7-241 (Stoinis, 43.4), 8-247 (Cummins, 44.2), 9-285 (Zampa, 49.1).

ENGLAND BOWLING

Willey 10-1-48-1, Woakes 9.3-0-54-4, Wood 10-0-70-2, Livingstone 6-0-42-1, Moeen 4-0-28-0, Adil Rashid 10-0-38-2.

ENGLAND

Jonny Bairstow c Inglis b Starc 0 *(1b)*, Dawid Malan c Head b Cummins 50 *(64b, 4x4, 1x6)*, Joe Root c Inglis b Starc 13 *(17b, 2x4)*, Ben Stokes c Stoinis b Zampa 64 *(90b, 2x4, 3x6)*, Jos Buttler c Green b Zampa 1 *(7b)*, Moeen Ali c Warner b Zampa 42 *(43b, 6x4)*, Liam Livingstone c sub (Abbott) b Cummins 2 *(5b)*, Chris Woakes c Labuschagne b Stoinis 32 *(33b, 4x4, 1x6)*, David Willey c Zampa b Hazlewood 15 *(14b, 3x4)*, Adil Rashid c Inglis b Hazlewood 20 *(15b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Mark Wood (not out) 0 *(0b)*; Extras (lb-6, w-8): 14; Total (in 48.1 overs): 253.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-0 (Bairstow, 0.1), 2-19 (Root, 4.3), 3-103 (Malan, 22.3), 4-106 (Buttler, 25.1), 5-169 (Stokes, 35.3), 6-174 (Livingstone, 36.6), 7-186 (Moeen, 39.1), 8-216 (Willey, 43.2), 9-253 (Woakes, 47.6).

AUSTRALIA BOWLING

Starc 10-0-66-2, Hazlewood 9.1-1-49-2, Cummins 10-1-49-2, Zampa 10-0-21-3, Head 5-0-28-0, Stoinis 4-0-34-1.

Toss: England.
PoM: Zampa.
Australia won by 33 runs.

Next assignment

Australia: November 7 vs. **Afghanistan,** Mumbai, 2 p.m.
England: November 8 vs. **Netherlands,** Pune, 2 p.m.

Zaman's hurricane ton helps Pakistan stay in the hunt after DLS finish

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

A swashbuckling century from Fakhar Zaman (126 n.o., 81b, 8x4, 11x6) helped Pakistan defeat New Zealand by 21 runs (DLS method) and keep alive its hopes of making the World Cup semifinals.

At the break on Saturday, New Zealand would have been at ease, having recorded 401 for six, the highest total at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium. But a blistering counter-attack from Zaman and a steady half-century from skipper Babar Azam (66 n.o., 63b, 6x4, 2x6) meant Pakistan had its nose in front in a game thrice interrupted by rain.

Zaman hit as many as 11 sixes, one bigger than the other, and all except one whacked into the stands on the leg-side. The 33-year-old was more egalitarian in his collection of boundaries, with the eight split equally either side.

This splendid knock was punctuated by a 90-minute rain break. Pakistan was at 160 for one after 21.3 overs, but the target was revised to a steep 342 from 41. However, the Men in Green chugged along merrily, with Babar getting to his fifty with a four past short-fine, then launching Ish Sodhi over long-on and Zaman smashing the leggie over mid-wicket for the last of his giant sixes.

The Black Caps desperately needed a wicket, but another spell of rain three balls into the 26th over ended up prolonging their wait for a last-four berth.

But for much of the day, the over 20,000-strong crowd would have believed that the 180-run partnership between Rachin Ravindra (108, 94b, 15x4, 1x6) and the returning Kane Williamson (95, 79b, 10x4, 2x6) would be game-defining.

Babar chose to field, perhaps with an eye on the weather. With his spinners woefully out of form, he went in with four pacers but Shaheen Afridi, Hasan Ali and Haris Rauf collectively bled 257 runs.

Sumptuous knock

Ravindra, watched on by his Bengaluru-based extended family members, started with an elegant glance to the fine-leg boundary. If that was the appetiser, the main course was classy and the dessert sumptuous. He cover-drove to perfection and picked bowlers off his legs superbly, with the towering six over mid-wicket off Rauf to bring up New Zealand's 200 his standout shot.

Williamson was more workmanlike. Two of his first three boundaries were edged but he unlocked areas of the ground like no other, with the lofted six off tweaker Agha Salman, the most eye-catching.

Though the duo fell in quick succession, the quartet of Daryl Mitchell, Mark Chapman, Glenn Phillips and Mitchell Santner added 135 runs at over 140. Little did they know that Zaman and the weather had other ideas.

Sensational knock: Zaman's six-hitting prowess kept Pakistan ahead of the Kiwis' par score when it mattered. K. MURALI KUMAR

SCOREBOARD

NEW ZEALAND

Devon Conway c Rizwan b Hasan 35 *(39b, 6x4)*, Rachin Ravindra c Shakeel b Wasim 108 *(94b, 15x4, 1x6)*, Kane Williamson c Zaman b Iftikhar 95 *(79b, 10x4, 2x6)*, Daryl Mitchell b Rauf 29 *(18b, 4x4, 1x6)*, Mark Chapman b Wasim 39 *(27b, 7x4)*, Glenn Phillips b Wasim 41 *(25b, 4x4, 2x6)*, Mitchell Santner (not out) 26 *(17b, 2x6)*, Tom Latham (not out) 2 *(2b)*; Extras (lb-8, w-17, nb-1): 26; Total (for six wkts. in 50 overs): 401.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-68 (Conway, 10.5 overs), 2-248 (Williamson, 34.2), 3-261 (Ravindra, 35.5), 4-318 (Mitchell, 41.1), 5-345 (Chapman, 44.3), 6-388 (Phillips, 48.5).

PAKISTAN BOWLING

Afridi 10-0-90-0, Hasan 10-0-82-1, Iftikhar 8-0-55-1, Rauf 10-0-85-1, Wasim 10-0-60-3, Salman 2-0-21-0.

PAKISTAN

Abdullah Shafique c Williamson b Southee 4 *(9b, 1x4)*, Fakhar Zaman (not out) 126 *(81b, 8x4, 11x6)*, Babar Azam (not out) 66 *(63b, 6x4, 2x6)*; Extras (lb-1, w-3): 4; Total (for one wkt. in 25.3 overs): 200.

FALL OF WICKET

1-6 (Shafique, 1.6).

NEW ZEALAND BOWLING

Boult 6-0-50-0, Southee 5-0-27-1, Santner 5-0-35-0, Phillips 5-1-42-0, Sodhi 4-0-44-0, Mitchell 0.3-0-1-0.

Toss: Pakistan; **PoM:** Zaman.
Pakistan won by 21 runs (DLS method).

Next assignment

New Zealand: November 9 vs. **Sri Lanka,** Bengaluru, 2 p.m.
Pakistan: November 11 vs. **England,** Kolkata, 2 p.m.

When Fakhar gets going, not many grounds are big enough: Williamson

Lavanya L
BENGALURU

Preparation, hard work, chutzpah, shortcomings – these were strains available in equal measure in the fibres of both New Zealand and Pakistan, but Player-of-the-Match Fakhar Zaman put his side's victory by 21 runs (Duckworth-Lewis method) down quite simply to luck.

"When you perform, people can see your work but they don't when you don't find success," Zaman said after his unbeaten 81-ball 126 mauling of the Black Caps here on Saturday.

The 33-year-old dedicated the win, which keeps Pakistan alive in the tournament, to team fielding coach Aftab Khan.

"Aftab has an academy in Peshawar. He identified that I tend to struggle against off-spinners, he's one himself, and so he worked on it with me. He identified my weaknesses and gave me time to fix them. You need people like that around you," Zaman said.

Pakistan's director of cricket Mickey Arthur had, before this fixture, hinted at diving deep into research and strategy and the results were there for all to see. "We knew there was a possibility of rain and wanted to ensure our score stays above the mark. We got messages on what our score needed to be at different stages."

Style and substance: Watched on by his Bengaluru-based extended family members, Ravindra was all class. K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

New Zealand, despite an exceptional batting show, found itself hard done by Saqlain Mushtaq's infamous *Qudrat ka Nizam* (way of nature) quip. However, Kane Williamson emphasised that the pep talks will be short and the team will take its lessons and look forward.

A lot left for us

"There's a lot left in this tournament for us. Although it's a frustrating result for us after so much of it going so well, the quicker we move on and focus on our next challenge, the better," he said.

Zaman has now scored four centuries against the Black Caps in ODIs this year and Williamson doffed his hat off to his style of play.

"When Fakhar gets going, not many grounds are big enough. This one certainly wasn't.

"He swung seriously hard and he hit everything off the middle of his bat and it went for miles. Today was probably one of his finest efforts," the Kiwi captain added.

Zaman on a six-hitting spree

Mayank Chaudhary
CHENNAI

Fakhar Zaman became only the fourth batter to hit 10 or more sixes in a World Cup innings. He was joint top with Shahid Afridi (11) for most sixes in an innings by a Pakistan batter in ODIs. The opener also scored the fastest century (63 balls) by a Pakistan batter at the World Cup.

Haris Rauf (16) conceded the highest number of sixes by a bowler in an edition, a record held by Zimbabwe medium-pacer Tinashe Panyangara (15).

Shaheen Afridi (10-0-90-0) earned the dubious distinction of giving away the most number of runs by a Pakistan bowler in a World Cup match. Rauf, who gave away 85 in the same match, is second on the list.

New Zealand recorded its biggest World Cup total (401). It is the sixth-best in the 50-over showpiece and also the highest in all ODIs in Bengaluru.

The Kiwis also posted the highest total in a losing cause in World Cups. They also sit second in the list after scoring 383 against Australia (a five-run loss) in Dharamshala earlier.

Rachin Ravindra is the first New Zealander to hit three World Cup hundreds in an edition. He is the third Kiwi after Martin Guptill and Kane Williamson to score more than 500 runs.

My own form has been the most frustrating, admits Buttler

Abhishek Saini
AHMEDABAD

England captain Jos Buttler said his side's inability to seize its chances cost dearly against Australia on Saturday.

"Lots of frustration. I think our bowling performance [was good]. Those are two guys [David Warner and Travis Head] who try to set the tone by being aggressive. Taking those two wickets was crucial. [But] There was a frustrating partnership from Adam Zampa and Mitchell Starc. We could have wrapped it up a little quicker," said Buttler.

"The guys who we have been selecting have been top players, they've been the best. Jonny's dismissal [off the first delivery] is the kind of thing that keeps happening. My own form has been the most frustrating. It is a pivotal position in the batting line-up."

Orchestrating England's slide was Zampa. "It got quite wet early, probably earlier than we expected.

"Still felt like the first 20 overs the wicket was still slow. Difficult to get wickets but we did well to get the asking rate up. The ball got swapped at around the 40-over mark," Zampa said.

"Tonight is as satisfying as it feels after an ODI. Bowling to lefties Malan, Stokes, and Moeen – they are quality players. My control was good."

Not enough: Stokes came up with a fighting knock but England fell short. VIJAY SONEJI

INBRIEF

Striker Javier Hernandez departs LA Galaxy

Former Manchester United and Real Madrid striker Javier 'Chicharito' Hernandez, *right in pic.*, departed the Los Angeles Galaxy, the MLS club and Mexican forward both announced on Friday. The 35-year-old playmaker from Guadalajara scored 39 goals in 82 matches over all competitions for the Galaxy from 2020 to 2023 but suffered a torn right knee ligament last June in a US Open Cup quarterfinal to end his campaign early.

Dimitrov holds off Tsitsipas to reach Paris Masters final

Bulgaria's Grigor Dimitrov kept up his late-season charge by squeezing past Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece 7-5, 6-7(3), 6-4 on Saturday and into the final of the Paris Masters.

The results: Quarterfinals: Djokovic bt Rune 7-5, 6-7(3), 6-4; Rublev bt De Minaur 4-6, 6-3, 6-1; Dimitrov bt Hurkacz 6-1, 4-6, 6-4; Tsitsipas bt Khachanov 6-3, 6-4.

Bopanna and Ebden pair one match away from the title

Rohan Bopanna and Matthew Ebden defeated Harri Heliovaara and Mate Pavic 6-7(3), 6-4, [10-6] in the doubles semifinals of the €6,748,815 ATP Masters tennis tournament in Paris on Saturday. Heliovaara and Pavic had beaten the top seeds Ivan Dodig and Ausstin Krajicek in straight sets in the quarterfinals.

Other results: €73,000 Challenger, Ismaning, Germany: Doubles (semifinals): Constantin Frantzen & Hendrik Jebens (Ger) bt Anirudh Chandrasekar & Vijay Sundar Prashanth 6-3, 7-6(4).

16-Indian cueists to take part in Doha tournament

A 16-member team will represent India in the World 15 Red and 6 Red snooker & billiards (long Up & 150up) championships to be held in Doha from November 5 to 24.

Men: 15 Red snooker: Kamal Chawla, S. Shrikrishna, Dhvaj Haria; **6red snooker:** Shrikrishna, Pankaj Advani Chawla; **15 Red snooker team:** Chawla, Shrikrishna; billiards: **Long Up & 150 up:** Advani, Sourav Kothari, Shrikrishna, Dhruv Sitwala, Rupesh Shah, Brijesh Damani, B. Bhaskar.
Women: 15 Red snooker: Vidya Pillai, Varshaa Sanjeev, Amee Kamani, R. Anupama, Arantxa Sanchis, Ishika Shah; **6 Red snooker:** Vidya, Varshaa, Anupama, Ishika, Arantxa, R. Umadevi.

LIVE TELECAST

NBA: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 6.30 a.m.
Men's Cricket World Cup: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 2 p.m.
Serie A: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 5, 7.30, 10.30 p.m. & 1.15 a.m. (Monday)
Badminton: Hylo Open, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 6.30 p.m.
LaLiga: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 6.30, 8.45, 11 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Monday)
Tennis: Paris Masters, Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 7 p.m.
Premier League: SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 & 10 p.m.
Bundesliga: Sony LIV, 8 & 10 p.m.
ISL: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 8 p.m.
Hockey: Women's Asian Champions Trophy, Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 8.30 p.m.
Formula One: Sao Paulo GP, F1 TV & F1 TV Pro App, 10.30 p.m.

Abhishek and Mandeep power Punjab past Delhi

Chasing 184, the two add 102 off just 58 deliveries to guide the team home with eight balls to spare; pacer Abhimanyusingh's four-for, including Parag's wicket, turns the tide in Baroda's favour

MUSHTAQ ALI TROPHY

Sahil Mathur
MOHALI

The cheers in the Punjab dug-out grew louder with each stroke off Abhishek Sharma and Mandeep Singh's bats as the duo powered the team into the final of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy with a six-wicket win over Delhi at the PCA IS Bindra Stadium on Saturday.

Abhishek's 77 and Mandeep's unbeaten 63 had the small crowd on its feet as Punjab chased down the 184-run target with eight balls to spare.

A cover drive for four got Abhishek going, but the situation was such that the opener had to be circumspect after losing three partners inside the Power-Play. However, he shifted gears when took on Suyash Sharma – who had been impressive for Delhi in the tournament – and hit him for a six and four off the first two deliveries of his spell.

With Suyash leaking runs, captain Yash Dhull had to turn to part-time bowlers like Ayush Badoni to fill in. Abhishek and Mandeep found the fence regularly during their 102-run stand off 58 balls. Mandeep smashed Pradeep Sangwan for 21 runs in the 15th over as Punjab cruised home.

Earlier, Badoni's 80 off 57 balls was the highlight as Delhi scored 183 for seven after being put in to bat on a slow wicket. It didn't prove enough once Abhishek and Mandeep got going.

The second semifinal took a dramatic turn in the 12th over when Baroda pacer Abhimanyusingh Rajput had Assam's Riyan Parag caught at deep mid-wicket. Krunal Pandya's side then took control as Abhimanyusingh's four-for restricted the opponent to 144.

In reply, openers Ninad Rathva (44) and Jyotsnil Singh (37) showed composure even as the super soppers and the ropes were brought into play between overs due to the dew.

The two added 81 off 41 balls, with Rathva being the aggressor. His runs came off just 26 balls and he perished when he was caught in the deep trying to hit his second six.

Jyotsnil, however, pushed Assam on to the backfoot, hitting three sixes and a four off Parag's first four balls of the game as Baroda won by six wickets with 23 balls to spare.

The scores:
Delhi 183/7 in 20 overs (Anuj Rawat 34, Ayush Badoni 80 n.o., Siddharth Kaul 3/27) lost to Punjab 184/4 in 18.4 overs (Abhishek Sharma 77, Mandeep Singh 63 n.o.).
Assam 143 in 20 overs (Rishav Das 48, Denish Das 32, Abhimanyusingh Rajput 4/29) lost to Baroda 146/4 in 16.1 overs (Jyotsnil Singh 37, Ninad Rathva 44).

The architects: Abhishek and Rathva fashioned Punjab and Baroda's wins in the semifinals on Saturday. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Hyderabad and Bengaluru share the honours

ISL-10

V.V. Subrahmanyam
HYDERABAD

Hyderabad FC warded off a spirited second-half challenge from Bengaluru FC to settle for a 1-1 draw in an ISL league match at the GMC Balayogi Stadium here on Saturday.

It was an opportunistic Mohammad Yasir who put HFC ahead in the 35th minute when he showed great anticipation to pick up a long ball from his own half by Oswaldo Alanis.

With great ball control, Yasir dodged past the closely marking Slavko Damjanovic and the goalkeeper to open the account for the former champion.

In the 58th minute of second-half, Bengaluru found the equaliser through Ryan Williams' left-footer off a beautiful short pass from the left by Halicharan Narzary.

The closest BFC came to scoring winner was when captain Sunil Chhetri, who got the better of a crowded defence, ran into an advancing custodian but couldn't beat.

Then, it was HFC's turn to miss an easy scoring chance when Jonathan Moya's header off a curling cross from the left flank by Mark Zotha missed the target in the 73rd minute.

Even in the dying seconds, the visitors had another chance of scoring but Francisco Xavier's left-footer from close to the goalline went off target.

The results:
At Hyderabad: HFC 1 (Yasir 35) drew with BFC 1 (Williams 58).
At Kolkata: East Bengal 1 (Cleiton 90+9-pen) lost Kerala Blasters 2 (Sakai 32, Diamantakos 88).

Open arms: Yasir accepted the long ball from Alanis and converted for the host Hyderabad. X@INDSUPERLEAGUE

Outcry in Sri Lanka over the team's miserable campaign

Breathing fire: The Sri Lankan batters were all at sea against Siraj. EMMANUAL YOGINI

Agence France Presse
COLOMBO

Anger over Sri Lanka's miserable World Cup campaign has erupted after a humiliating 302-run thrashing by host India, with the island nation's sports minister demanding the cricket board's resignation.

Sports minister Roshan Fernando, who has long been at loggerheads with the board and previously accused it of being "traitorous and corrupt", upped the stakes by telling officials and selectors to quit.

"Sri Lanka Cricket officials have no moral or ethical right to remain in office," the minister said in a statement issued on Friday night.

"They should voluntarily resign."

Local newspapers echoed Fernando's dismay with mass daily *Lankadeepa* on Saturday writing that explanations were needed from coaching staff over the "heart-wrenching defeat".

"SACK THEM ALL," screamed the front-page headline of the *Daily Mirror*, in reference to the board.

India beats Pakistan to win bronze

Press Trust of India
JOHOR BAHRU

Goalkeeper H.S. Mohith made a crucial save in the penalty shootout as the India junior hockey team edged arch-rival Pakistan 6-5 to bag the bronze medal at the Sultan of Johor Cup, here on Saturday.

The regulation time ended with the scoreline reading 3-3 with Arun Sahani (11th), Poovanna CB (42th) and captain Uttam Singh (52nd) scoring for India, while Sufyan Khan (33rd), Abdul Qayyum (50th) and skipper Shahid Hannan (57th) finding the net for Pakistan.

The penalty shootout went all the way to sudden death and Mohith tackled Hannan perfectly to seal India's victory.

H.S. Mohith. HOCKEY INDIA

Srihari ends season with eight golds; Dhinidhi and Harshitha swim to new meet marks

NATIONAL GAMES

Stan Rayan
PANAJI

The long season may have worn him out but Olympian Srihari Nataraj still finished the 37th National Games with eight golds, including four in the relays, at the Campal Sports Complex on Saturday.

The final day's action pitted Srihari against the seasoned Virdhawal Khade, the Games fastest man, in the 100m freestyle but the Bangalore youngster had a good start and increased his lead at the turn to better his own meet record.

"Quite a long year, ups and downs but it was good. Going into the National Games, I didn't really intend to get back to full training and I wasn't really sure what to expect but the goal was to help Karnataka to a few golds," Srihari, the swimmer with the maximum individual golds here (four), told *The Hindu*.

Record-setters: Harshitha set a new mark in 100m breaststroke, while Dhinidhi overhauled the 100m freestyle record. STAN RAYAN

Rested and ready

"I'm going to take some time off after this, give my body and mind some rest and get back to backstroke training...fix my stroke to get back my balance. The goal is to qualify for the (2024) Olympics by March-April and train for Paris."

Four of the five final day's events threw up Games records and Karnataka's Dhinidhi Desinghu (100m free) and Kerala's Harshitha Jayaram (100m breaststroke) were the others to break them in individual events.

"I would say the 100m free was my most satisfying event, given the fact that this is the end of the season and I have been racing so many times and I got the record," said 13-year-old Dhinidhi.

The results (winners only):
Swimming: Men: 100m freestyle: Srihari Nataraj (Kar) 49.97s (MR, Old: 50.41, own); **100m backstroke:** S.P. Likith 1:02.25s.
Women: 100m freestyle: Dhinidhi Desinghu (Kar) 57.87s (Mld, Old: 58.34, Shivani Kataria, 2015). **100m breaststroke:** Harshitha Jayaram (Ker) 1:13.89s (MR, Old: 1:14.42s, Chahat Arora, 2022).
Mixed: 4x100m medley relay: Karnataka (Srihari Nataraj, Vidith S. Shankar, Nina Venkatesh, Dhinidhi Desinghu) 4:03.80s (MR, OlR 4:11.08, Tamil Nadu, 2022).

Akshay dominates from start to finish in first F4 race

Memorable: The top three finishers of the India F4 race with FMSCI president Akbar Ebrahim. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

MOTORSPORTS

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

The first-ever Indian F4 championship got underway at the Madras International Circuit as part of the second season of the Indian Racing Festival that kicked off here on Saturday.

The series promoted by Racing Promotions Private Limited (RPPL) has two championships - the Indian F4 and the Indian Racing League, a city-based franchise league with six teams.

On Saturday, Akshay Bohra of the United Kingdom won the first F4 race from pole position ahead of Roshon Rajeev and Shahan Ali Mohsin. Bohra maintained his lead from lights out and drove a composed race.

There was a brief safety car period as well, and the youngster nailed the restart to win it comfortably. On the last lap, torrential rain hit the track and ended behind the Safety Car.

The rains meant the first race of the IRL, which was to follow the F4 race in the afternoon, could not be held.

The opening round of the series was initially set to be held at the Hyderabad street circuit.

But, due to upcoming elections in Telangana and with the model code of conduct in place, the race was moved to Chennai at the eleventh hour.

The four-round series will now be held only in Chennai, with the first three rounds at the MIC and the final round at the Chennai Formula Racing circuit, a street circuit near Island grounds.

The event will be India's first-ever night race and will be held on December 9 & 10.

THE HINDU GROUP
THE HINDU
CRICKET WORLD CUP
TRIVIA CHALLENGE
1. The game between Zimbabwe and Kenya in the 1996 ODI World Cup saw three pairs of brothers playing namely the Flowers, Strangs and which Kenyan duo?
2. The injury struck Zimbabwean team was granted special permission to use the services of which cricketer who was part of the commentary panel in 2003 World Cup?
3. Who became the first bowler to take 500 ODI wickets during the match against the Netherlands in the 2003 ODI World Cup?
Visit bit.ly/wctcterms to read the Terms & Conditions.
Scan the QR code to participate in the quiz. Top 3 winners each day will win exciting gift vouchers
Answer to yesterday's quiz:
1. Imran Khan
2. Sunil Gavaskar
3. Adam Gilchirst

Gauff, Sabalenka and Swiatek notch up wins

The 2023 US Open champion sets up a last-four battle with Pegula after downing Vondrousova; Belarusian beats Rybakina; the Pole defeats Jabeur

Smashing win: Gauff pipped Wimbledon champion Vondrousova in a riveting contest. AFP

WTA FINALS

Associated Press
CANCUN

Coco Gauff overcame 17 double-faults and came back after being a game away from elimination at the WTA Finals on Friday, eventually moving into the semifinals after pulling out a 5-7, 7-6(4), 6-3 victory over Wimbledon champion Marketa Vondrousova in a round-robin match.

She will face her good friend – and doubles partner – Jessica Pegula on Saturday in an all-American match with a berth in the final at stake.

The other semifinal at the season-ending championship will feature No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka against the woman she replaced atop the rankings in September, No. 2 Iga Swiatek. The year-end No. 1 spot is on the line in Cancun, with Swiatek needing to grab the title in order to replace Sabalenka.

Gauff, finished 2-1 in the round-robin action. Four-time major champion Swiatek won the group by going 3-0, including a 6-1, 6-2 win against Ons Jabeur in windy and rainy conditions on Friday.

Sabalenka reached the semifinals for the second consecutive year, holding on to beat Elena Rybakina 6-2, 3-6, 6-3 on Friday in a contest repeatedly interrupted by showers the night before. Sabalenka finished on 2-1 which allowed her to come second in the other round-robin group, behind the unbeaten Pegula.

Gauff dropped four consecutive games and 16 of 21 points to go from leading the opening set to dropping it and trailing 1-0 in the next. There was a 25-minute rain delay early in the second set; perhaps that helped Gauff regroup a bit.

Still, Vondrousova managed to get in front and serve for the victory at 6-5 in the second. Gauff broke there to stay in it. And after briefly trailing in the third set, too, Gauff grabbed five of the match's last six games.

Sabalenka vs. Rybakina was halted on Thursday night with Rybakina about to try to force a third set by serving for the second at 5-3. When they resumed, she did just that. But Sabalenka came through in the decider – although not without a bit of tension in the last game: She needed to save five break points, and required four match points to end it.

Rybakina was eliminated with the loss on Friday.

The results: Singles: Gauff bt Vondrousova 5-7, 7-6(4), 6-3; Swiatek bt Jabeur 6-1, 6-2; Sabalenka bt Rybakina 6-2, 3-6, 6-3.

Doubles: Dabrowski & Routliffe bt Krejcikova & Siniakova 6-4, 7-5; Melichar-Martinez & Perez bt Schuurs & Krawczyk 6-2, 7-5.

Verstappen claims pole in red-flagged qualifying

SAO PAULO GP

Reuters
SAO PAULO

Red Bull's triple Formula One world champion Max Verstappen beat the weather as well as his rivals to secure pole position for the Sao Paulo Grand Prix in a qualifying session halted by 'insane' conditions at Interlagos on Friday.

Ferrari's Charles Leclerc joined Verstappen on the front row with Aston Martin's Lance Stroll and Fernando Alonso third and fourth.

Verstappen was quick out of the pits as storm clouds loomed, getting a flying lap in to secure provisional pole before gusting winds, rain and flashes of lightning halted the track action.

"We didn't know when it would hit in qualifying, we thought it would hit. This is of course insane weather," said the 26-year-old, who secured his third title in Qatar last month.

McLaren's Australian rookie Oscar Piastri had already skidded off onto the grass, triggering yellow flags. With the rain expected imminently, Verstappen overtook the Mercedes of last year's winner George Russell as they exited the pit lane.

Leclerc, who had been on pole for the two previous races, was 0.294 slower.

The governing FIA stopped the clock with four minutes remaining and said the session would not be re-started.

Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton and Russell filled the third row, with McLaren's Lando Norris seventh and Ferrari's Carlos Sainz eighth and Red Bull's Sergio Perez ninth.

Perez was forced to slow on his lap after Piastri went off.

Champion mentality: Verstappen bossed the Interlagos circuit even under tough conditions. GETTY IMAGES

India moves past Korea, meets Japan in the final

V for victory: The Japanese players are a happy bunch after making it to the title clash. PTI

ACT HOCKEY

Uthra Ganesan
RANCHI

The Indian women won 2-0, continuing from where they had left off and defeating Korea for the second time in as many games to reach the final of the Jharkhand Asian Champions Trophy here on Saturday.

They will now take on Japan in a repeat of the bronze medal match at the Asian Games, seeking only their second title against the defending champion after the Japanese upset reigning Asian Games champion China 2-1 in the other semifinal. China will play Korea for the third spot.

India's intentions and attempts were clear from the beginning as the host stayed on the attack and had a couple of penalty corners inside the first five minutes but shot wide on both occasions.

A solid team effort in the 11th minute helped India break the deadlock, a goal that was as impressive for its rhythm as its execution.

Salima Tete stole the ball near the Korean 23-yard line, ran through the middle of the field in a straight line like a bullet and passed on to Vandana Katariya on the left.

The latter sent the ball to Navneet in a single, fluid motion, who passed it to an unmarked Salima near the far post. The youngster shot home from an acute angle.

Vaishnavi Phalke, drafted in only two days back as Sonika was ruled out after a collision and possible concussion, shot in a rebound off India's third penalty corner to double the lead in the 19th minute.

Although India came close a few more times, it could not increase the lead by half-time. Korea, on the other hand, barely had a few half chances.

India continued to push hard after the break, but the Korean defence held on, closed down space and tried to attack on the counter, earning a few PCs; it was, however, unable to convert. Although she would have hoped for more goals for all the hard work on the field, coach Janneke Schopman had expected as much after the previous game and was satisfied with the result.

In the other semifinal, Japan came back from a goal down in the second half to reach its second successive final in the tournament. It was a tight game with neither team controlling it at any point.

China tried to score from open play but was off-target repeatedly while Japan focused on penalty corners – it got 11 to China's four – and managed to convert twice, both goals coming off rebounds as the Chinese defence failed to clear properly.

In the playoff for the fifth spot, Malaysia earned a PC and the lead in the very first minute and hung on to it till the end against Thailand.

The results: Semifinals: Japan 2 (Kana Urata, Miyu Suzuki) bt China 1 (Tiantian Luo); India 2 (Salima Tete, Vashnavi Phalke) bt Korea 0; **5/6 place:** Malaysia 1 (Nurmaizatul Syafi) bt Thailand 0.

Fernandes nets United's winner; Doku powers City to a 6-1 rout of Bournemouth

EURO LEAGUES

Reuters
FULHAM

Manchester United stopped the rot as captain Bruno Fernandes struck in the 90th minute for a 1-0 victory at Fulham in the Premier League on Saturday.

The game was petering out into a lacklustre stalemate when Fernandez latched on to a loose ball on the edge of the area and drilled a low skidding shot inside the post.

Later, Manchester City winger Jeremy Doku scored and created two more goals in seven blistering first-half minutes before adding two more assists in the second period as the champion hammered Bournemouth 6-1 to go top of the Premier League.

Haaland injured

Bernardo Silva netted twice but it was Belgian winger Doku who caught the eye as he dug into his bag of attacking tricks to lay the foundations for a dominant win by the home side, who lost leading striker Erling Haaland to injury at half-time.

Ecstatic: United skipper Fernandes lets out a primal scream after netting the winner. AFP

Meanwhile in the La Liga on Friday, Kirian Rodriguez and Benito Ramirez scored to lead Las Palmas to a 2-1 victory over Atletico Madrid, handing the latter Atletico its first loss in 10 games in all competitions.

The results: Premier League: Brentford 3 (Maupay 11, Mavropanos 55-og, Collins 69) bt West Ham 2 (Kudus 19, Bowen 26); Burnley 0 lost to Crystal Palace 2 (Schlupp 22, Mitchell 90); Everton 1 (Mykolenko 7) drew with Brighton 1 (Young 84-og); Fulham 0 lost to Manchester United 1 (Fernandes 90); Manchester City 6 (Doku 30, Silva 33, 83, Akanji 37, Foden 64, Ake 88) bt Bournemouth 1 (Sinisterra 74); Sheffield United 2 (Archer 72, Norwood 90-pen) bt Wolves 1 (Bellegarde 89).

Serie A: Salernitana 0 lost to Napoli 2 (Raspadori 13, Elmas 82).

Bundesliga: Union Berlin 0 lost to Eintracht Frankfurt 3 (Marmoush 2, 14, Ferri 82); SC Freiburg 3 (Holer 7, Weißhaupt 70, Grifo 90+6-pen) drew with Borussia Moenchengladbach 3 (Siebatcheu 25, Plea 29, Weigl 39-pen); Mainz 2 (Lee 76, Barreiro 80) bt RB Leipzig 0; FC Cologne 1 (Maina 16) drww with Augsburg 1 (Tietz 25); Hoffenheim 2 (Stach 56, Weghorst 58) lost to Bayer Leverkusen 3 (Wirtz 9, Grimaldo 45+1, 70).

La Liga: Osasuna 2 (Budimir 25, 55) lost to Girona 4 (Martin 16, Dovbyk 71, Tsygankov 80, Garcia 90).

On Friday: Serie A: Bologna 1 (Ferguson 46) bt Lazio 0.

Bundesliga: Darmstadt 1 (Nurnberger 43) lost to Bochum 2 (Asano 25, 54).

La Liga: Las Palmas 2 (Kirian 51, Ramirez 75) bt Atletico Madrid 1 (Morata 83).

Five Indians nominated for WA awards

ARCHERY

Sports Bureau

Five Indian archers, including compound men and women individual World champions Ojas Deotale and Aditi Swami, have made it to the World Archery's shortlist for 2023 Athlete of the Year awards.

Deotale and Prathamesh Jawkar, who won a World Cup Stage gold medal, have been nominated in Compound Men award, while Aditi Swami has been shortlisted for the Breakthrough of the Year honour as well as Compound Women.

Seasoned compound archer V. Jyothi Surekha is the second Indian in Compound Women's category. Armless para archer Sheetal Devi is in the race for the Para Women's award.

Coach Italian Sergio Pagni, who played a big part in the Indian compound archers' fine performance in the World championships, World Cup and Asian Games, is in contention for the Coach of the Year award.

WA will open the categories for public voting at *www.worldarcheryawards.com* on November 10.

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